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Park's Floral Magazine

Vol. XLVIII, No. 4.
Established 1871.

LAPARK, PA., APRIL, 1912.

3 Years 25 Cts.
6 Years 50 Cts.



THE NEW FRILLED BEGONIA.

THE colored illustration represents flowers of the new Tuberous-rooted Frilled Begonia, fine tubers of which I can supply to color at 10 cents each. These tubers were grown for me in Belgium, and imported. Following are the colors: Pure White, Pure Yellow, Pure Rose, Rich Scarlet, Fine Salmon. The flowers are of large size, and the waxy petals are crimped or frilled at the margin, giving them a charming appearance. The colors are very rich and striking, and always call forth enthusiastic expressions of admiration. Every lover of Begonias should have this unique and elegant race. The full collection, 5 tubers, mailed for 35c.

FOR ONLY 50 CENTS I will send a full collection, 5 fine tubers in the 5 colors, with Park's Floral Magazine three years. Five lots with 5 three-year subscriptions only \$2.00. Get up a club.

DOUBLE TUBEROUS BEGONIAS.—These are still the most popular of Begonias, and are not surpassed in beauty. My strain is unequalled. I offer 7 colors—white, yellow, salmon, flesh, rose, scarlet and crimson. Seven bulbs in the 7 colors, with Magazine 3 years, only 50 cents. Separate colors 8 cents each. Five lots and 5 three-year subscriptions only \$2.00. 1 lot, 7 tubers, alone, 35c.

For \$1.00. Send me \$1.00 and I will mail the 5 Frilled Begonias, the 7 Double Begonias, 2 3-year subscriptions to this Magazine, and 6 roots of the glorious new Canna, King Humbert, the grandest of all bedding plants. Set in a 3-foot bed, thus. The bed will be beautiful. The 18 tubers alone, 75 cents.

GEO. W. PARK, LaPark, Pa.

Park's Floral Magazine.

A Monthly. Entirely Floral.

GEO. W. PARK, B. Sc., Editor and Proprietor,
LA PARK, LANCASTER CO., PA.

The Editor invites correspondence from all who love and cultivate flowers.

Subscription Price, 25 cts. for 3 years. 50 cts. for 6 years.

Advertising.—This department is at 326 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill., Mr. Frank B. White, Vice President and Manager, to whom all communications pertaining to advertising should be addressed. All advertisements inserted are believed to be reliable. Advertisements of intoxicants, tobacco and tobacco supplies, fortune telling, medicines, etc., are strictly excluded. If any deception is practiced upon our readers it should be promptly reported to the advertising manager.

APRIL, 1912.

Vines for a Wall.—Besides Hall's Honeysuckle some good vines to cover a wall are Aristolochia siphon, Akebia quinata, Lonicera sempervirens, Ampelopsis Veitchii, Celastris scandens, and Trumpet Vine. Among herbaceous perennials for the same purpose are Perennial Peas, Vicia Gerardi, Ipomoea pandurata, and Polygonum multiflorum. These plants may all be started from seeds, and mostly require several years to become established.

Leopard Plant.—This is Farfugium grande, which often bears golden Daisy-like flowers in winter, but which is grown chiefly for its beautiful spotted foliage. It thrives in a compost of fibrous loam, sand and chip-dirt or woods earth. Do not let it become pot-bound. Sponge the leaves upon both sides once a week to keep off red spider. In summer it flourishes if bedded out upon the south side of a wall or building, where it will be partially shielded from the hot sun. The plant is hardy at the South, but must be used as a window plant at the North.

Dahlia Clumps.—These should be dug in autumn, while the ground is wet, so a portion of the earth adheres, then dried and placed in a cool but frost-proof place until spring. Avoid injuring the stem to which the tubers are attached, as it is from this that the sprouts issue. If the stem dries up it is ruinous to propagation. When the clumps are taken out to start, place them in boxes of sand and keep moist but not wet. Too much moisture about them at first will often cause them to decay. Divide after the sprouts appear and set where the plants are to bloom.



CLUMP OF DAHLIA TUBERS.

SIX FLOWERING SHRUBS.

A KANSAS subscriber asks for a list of six shrubs that will endure drouth, deluge, wind and cold, and give a succession of bloom. He should try the following:

Alnus serrulata, the earliest, bearing pretty yellow and brown flowers as soon as the frost disappears; Spirea prunifolia fl. pl. following, with wreaths of double white flowers; then comes Spirea Reevesi, with clusters of double snowy flowers; and later Spirea Anthony Waterer, crimson, blooming throughout the season. Weigela floribunda rosea comes later, followed by Hibiscus Syriacus in many colors, which keeps up the display till autumn, when the white panicles of Hydrangea paniculata appear, which change to a bronzy rose later, and if cut and dried keeping well in the house throughout winter. Many other beautiful shrubs might be named, but these are perhaps the hardiest and most tenacious of all the shrubs affording a succession of bloom, and ought to do well even under adverse circumstances.



ALNUS
SERRULATA.
Flowers and Fruit.

LIME-SULPHUR SOLUTION.

THE Lime-sulphur solution is made as follows: Mix two pounds of powdered sulphur and one pound fresh-slacked lime together, then stir into one gallon of water and boil for one hour. Let the material settle and bottle the clear red liquid for use. When you are ready to spray prepare the spraying liquid by adding one quart of the lime-sulphur solution to six quarts of water, with a few ounces of powdered lime to give color to the foliage—just enough to designate where the spray is used. Spray this upon dormant trees to eradicate scale, aphids and other enemies that lurk about the bark. After the foliage develops reduce the material to one part lime-sulphur liquid to fifteen parts water, or as strong as the foliage will bear. This will eradicate thrips, hoppers, lice and slugs that work upon Roses and other plants, and should be applied every fortnight during the spring and early summer. To prevent rabbits and mice from barking shrubs and young trees in winter stir in a little more lime and sulphur and apply as a whitewash to the base of the trunk, or spray it upon the bark by using a coarse rose or nozzle. Sprayed upon Flowering Almond and Forsythia early in spring it will prevent birds from eating the buds. This lime-sulphur liquid is the most important of the preparations for overcoming pests, and should come into general use by all gardeners.

ABOUT OLEANDER.

OLEANDERS are readily started from cuttings taken in the spring, the end split and some cotton placed between the parts, then inserted in brown bottles filled with water and kept in a warm, shady place. When rooted, pot in sandy loam enriched with well-rotted manure.

When the plants are well established set in a warm, sunny place, shielding the sides of the pots from the sun-rays, or sinking the pots in a sunny place out-doors, with coal ashes beneath to exclude angle-worms. Keep well watered while growing and blooming, but after

blooming water sparingly for six weeks to ripen the wood and promote free-blooming the next bloom-season. After the rest, cut the branches back, and encourage new growth before the growing



OLEANDER.

season is over. A liquid fertilizer applied at this time will be found very beneficial.

As winter approaches, the plants may be set in a frost-proof cellar and sparingly watered till spring, when they should be repotted if necessary, and treated as before. Growth in full sunshine is essential to free-blooming. The leaves are poisonous when eaten by stock, and the flowers have taken the life of persons who ate them. Even the wood divested of bark and made into skewers for roasting meat have so poisoned the meat in cooking that those who ate of it died.

Bulbs After Blooming.—After Hyacinths, Narcissus, and Easter Lilies have bloomed in the window they are mostly regarded as of little value. They should be watered until the foliage fades, then the pots may be placed in a cool place during the summer. About October 1st take them out and bed them in the garden, setting the Hyacinths and Tulips four inches deep, and the Lilies eight inches deep, treading the soil firmly over the bulbs. The Lilies might be planted in September, if convenient, but Hyacinths and Narcissus set early make top growth before winter, which is ruined by frost. It is always well however, to get new bulbs every year for window culture. The old ones are never satisfactory. The Chinese Sacred Lily will produce nice foliage the second year, but is rarely known to bloom.

Poinsettia After Blooming.—After blooming a Poinsettia should be sparingly watered till summer, and then bedded out or plunged in a cool, shady place and the tops cut back. New shoots will issue from the trunk or shortened branches, and upon these the flowers will appear the next winter. In the milder South the plants are grown out-doors entirely, but at the North they must be grown in pots and placed in the window in winter.

ORANGE TREE.

AN ORANGE TREE can be shifted into a larger pot in the spring, and as summer approaches plunge it into a sunny bed in the garden, making the rim of the pot even with the surface. Keep well watered till autumn, then let the plant become rather dry, so as to ripen the wood, and promote the formation of embryo buds. Before the frost comes in the fall take the plant up and place



OTAHEITE ORANGE TREE.

in the house where it is to remain during the winter. Water it sparingly, however, until the buds begin to push out, then gradually increase the supply. If it is a blooming plant it should show its flowers during the early spring months. A sandy, porous soil well enriched with rotted manure suits it

Wistaria Seeds.—The Wistaria is a leguminous vine, and readily propagated from seeds, which are bean-like and borne in large pods. They do not germinate promptly, and often lie dormant in the ground for six weeks before starting. Germination might be hastened by dropping the seeds into hot water, and allowing them to soak for twenty-four hours before planting.

Moss Locust.—What is known as Moss Locust is *Robinia hispida*, a shrub or small tree with pinkish, Pea-like flowers in clusters. When in bloom it is one of the most beautiful of flowering shrubs. It is hardy, and readily propagated from root cuttings.



NIGELLA DAMASCENA FLORE PLENO.

AMONG THE easily-grown hardy annuals are the various species of *Nigella*. The seeds are the size of double Balsam, and should be sown either in the fall or early spring. *Nigella Hispanica* is a pretty species growing a foot high, and blooming freely in summer, the flowers being blue, white and purple. *N. diversifolia* is a new introduction, with lovely bell-shaped flowers. Perhaps the finest of the species, however, is *N. Damascena*, the old-fashioned Love-in-a-Mist, or Devil-in-a-Bush, which branches freely and bears many handsome flowers, followed by large, showy, inflated seed-vessels. The varieties now grown are double, white and blue, the deepest and most showy one being the new one named Miss Jekyll. It is of a beautiful blue color, and handsome either in beds or for cutting. The generic name, "*Nigella*," is derived from *niger*, black, on account of the black color of the seeds. When rubbed, the seeds have a delightful odor. Sow where the plants are to bloom, and then thin out.

HOME ADORNMENT WITH FLOWERS.

IT IS NOT in the homes of the wealthy, nor even where an ample store of this world's goods is enjoyed that the common, though beautiful annuals grown from seeds—the Sweet Peas, Nasturtiums, Morning Glories and Petunias, afford the most comfort and cheer. They grow and bloom just as well in the yard of the humble cottage, and their beauty brightens, adorns and renders home-like and happy a place that would otherwise be squalor and gloom. Illustrations often come to me from enthusiastic flower-loving friends who prize their homes beautified by seedling flowers that would hardly be considered by those who revel in the beauty of exotic Ferns and Palms and Orchids. There is something touching about these pictures, something that appeals to the taste of the artist and poet, and I gladly receive and publish them when they are sufficiently plain to be photo-engraved.

The cottage shown upon this page is that of Mrs. Johnson, of Cumberland County, Colorado. In renewing her subscription Mrs. Johnson writes:

Mr. Editor:—I am enclosing a photograph of my little cottage home, surrounded by flowers—a perfect bower of bloom. The plants were grown mostly from seeds from LaPark. My husband (who has since passed into eternity) and I are on the porch. He was very fond of flowers, and being paralyzed and helpless for many years, he liked to sit among the flowers, where he could enjoy their beauty and fragrance, and watch the butterflies and bees and humming-birds that flitted from flower to flower in quest of honey. I am exceedingly fond of flowers, and take great pleasure in cultivating them. I have been taking your Magazine for years, and appreciate its value. The winter has been so severe that I lost all of my house plants, and must start anew this spring. —Mrs. Johnson, Basalt, Colo., Mar. 1, 1912. (Came to Colorado in 1860.)

The love of flowers and the beautiful in Nature is increasing, and nothing, perhaps, tends to promote that love more than the general distribution of seeds and floral literature among the common people. We can all do such mission work at this season by encouraging flower culture, and thus bring the cheering influence of bloom and beauty to places of abode that have hitherto been barren and gloomy, transforming them into cozy homes, with the love and enjoyment that such homes inspire. Certainly no money or effort could be more beneficial to a community.

ORRIS ROOT.

WHAT IS known in commerce as Orris root is the rhizome of *Iris Florentina*. The plant is a native of Southern Europe, where it is cultivated. The roots are taken up in the spring, divested of the brown skin and fibers, and then dried. The plant is largely grown at Florence, Italy, and is exported from Leghorn in large casks. At one time the Orris root was much used as a cathartic, and also taken in large doses as an emetic; but its chief value now is the agreeable, violet-like odor of the dried form. It is brittle and easily pulverized, and is much used in tooth powders. An oil is also extracted by distillation that is greatly diluted with weak alcohol, and used as perfume, the violet odor being pronounced and lasting. The *Iris Florentina* is perfectly hardy even in Canada, is vigorous, bears freely large white or blue flowers in May, and is fine for a garden border. The roots may be obtained and planted

either in the spring or fall. They like a damp, rich soil, and each little root planted will soon develop into a large, handsome clump. The clumps ought to be divided and reset once in every three or four years, to keep the plants in good condition. They should be set

eighteen inches apart. They will then soon cover the bed, and will make a glorious display during the blooming season.

Hyacinths Stemless.—The reason Hyacinths are often stemless is that the bulbs were not procured and started early enough to become well rooted, and the atmosphere was too dry and warm, causing the flowers to open prematurely. A dark paper placed around the bulb may sometimes help to lengthen the stem. Some Hyacinths, however, are naturally tall, and others low, and this often has something to do with the development of the stem.

Begonias.—President Carnot is a vigorous Begonia, the foliage red beneath, and beautiful shades of green above, the flowers large coral red in splendid panicles. The *Argentea guttata* is red beneath, with a silvery, spotted green above, and admirable as a foliage plant. Both may be obtained of almost any florist.



A HUMBLE COTTAGE MADE BRIGHT WITH FLOWERS.

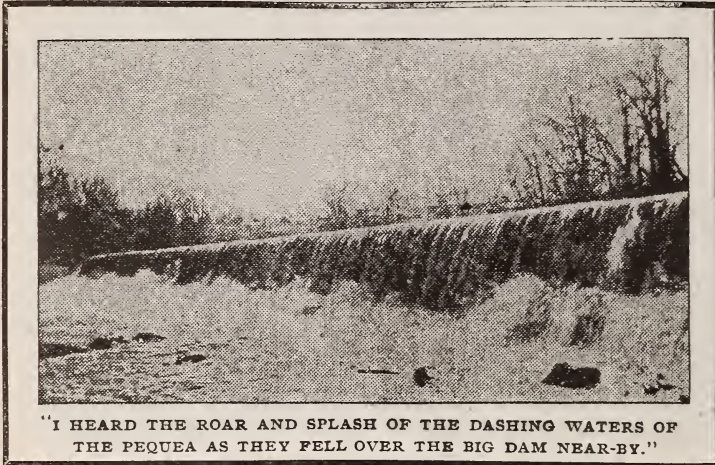
CHILDREN'S LETTER

MY DEAR CHILDREN:—The past winter was one of unusual severity at LaPark, and the cold weather continued until Saint Patrick's Day. Truly it was "Winter lingering in the lap of spring." But on March 17th it seemed as though spring came

during the night, for I was awakened by a little Song Sparrow that appeared in the branches of the Locust tree near my open window, singing its most joyous and happy strains. The song was truly inspiring, and, do you know, it was not long till other Sparrows joined in, and then, for the first time this year I heard the liquid notes of a Blackbird, and a Robin calling to its mate; and finally a

Meadow Lark, sitting among the dry sedges beyond the old leaning Elm by the water's edge, poured forth its rich notes of praise. I could hardly believe what I heard. It seemed almost as a dream. But I went to the window and looked off toward the

eastern hills, and was convinced that spring was here, for the air was mild, the sky, lighted with the bright rays of the rising sun, cast a glorious halo over the landscape, and the scene was truly enchanting. I listened, and, as a soothing, pleasing accompaniment to the bird-songs I heard the roar and splash of the dashing waters of the Pequea as they fell over the big dam near-by. Beyond the dam was the lakelet, with its surrounding rocks and big forest trees, where the Crows hold their conventions, and where, even on this bright morning I saw two or three Crows, that cawed to each other, or to some relatives in the adjacent grove. How delightful were all these evidences of returning spring! Winter has its pleasures, but we gladly yield these to the sweeter and richer joys of the spring resurrection. We give to the returning birds and verdure and bloom an enthusiastic welcome, and are inspired with new life by the warm, bright sunshine, the gentle showers, and the increasing beauty of the landscape.



"I HEARD THE ROAR AND SPLASH OF THE DASHING WATERS OF THE PEQUEA AS THEY FELL OVER THE BIG DAM NEAR-BY."

Throughout Saint Patrick's Day the sun shone brightly, and the soft, mild atmosphere seemed to swell the buds and give to the branches a more lively color. The next day was equally pleasant, and as I passed down the path in the morning the eastern sun lighted up the gold of the Willows and made more clear and attractive the white trunk and limbs of the huge old Sycamores, which still retain their abundance of big swinging ear-bobs, relieving the nudity of the branches, and adding to the interest of the scene. By the pathway hundreds of little bulbs, impatient of spring's delay, were peeping the tips of their leaves above the soil, and when I got to the group of Hazel bushes I was greeted with a Cloth of Gold Crocus that had already pushed away the earth covering and opened its big golden eyes skyward. Yes, and the drooping bloom-buds of the Alder were larger and showier, and the Hazel clusters were following suit. In the large Tulip beds near the office were seen the bronzy green tips of the leaves, and the grove of tall Poplars that is

just across the way in front of my officewindow was showy with the numerous fat embryo-buds. Even the merry water, as it turned the big wheel to run the Magazine printing-presses and machinery, seemed more vigorous and strong because of the

spring's return. Indeed, all Nature seemed endowed with new life and attractiveness.

And now, dear children, you will all be impatient to see the birds building their nests and the flower-buds developing. But while you are waiting for the birds to build nests why not make some boxes for the little house Wrens that do not build in branches, but in holes or cavities in rocks or trees or buildings. Such houses need not be more than six inches square, with a hole $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, not larger. The Wrens can thus enter, but the English Sparrows will be excluded. The Wrens do not come till later, so if you make and erect your boxes during April it will be time for the birds. Make the door about the centre of one end, and put a wooden pin a half-inch in diameter just below, for the birds to light upon. Or, you can nail a little board two inches wide, below the door for a lighting board. In putting the boxes up nail them securely, so that they will not be dislodged by the wind. Always have the slope of the roof

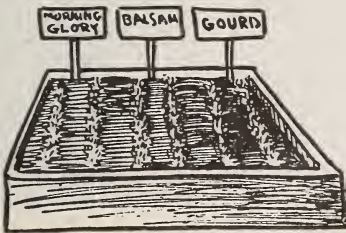
to the north, to avoid the severe heat of the bright summer sunshine. After placing the box, be sure to encircle the tree with a bunch of thorny brush, as dead prunings of Barberry or Roses or Osage hedge, to prevent the access of Cats. If there are any Red Squirrels in the vicinity you had better try to get rid of them, as they will rob every bird's nest they find, taking eggs or young, or even old birds if they can get them. It is a good plan, also, to plant



BIRD HOUSE.

some Berberis, Aralia pentaphylla and tall-growing Roses for nesting birds; and where there are wild shrubs the tops can be bound together in a thick bunch for nesting places for small birds.

And while you are waiting for the Hyacinths, Tulips and Daffodils to bloom why not sow in a box seeds of Snapdragon, Aster, Balsam, Celosia, Daisy, Myosotis, Pansy, Petunia, Phlox, Salpiglossis, Stock, Verbena and Zinnia. Fill a shallow tray with porous soil till within a half-inch of the top, then press it firm with a brick, sift some woods earth over, and press again. Then with a piece of lath press rows two inches apart, sow your seeds thinly, labeling as you sow, and scatter some sifted soil over, according to the size of the seeds. Do not cover deeper than twice the thickness of the seeds. This done cover the soil with a piece of cheese cloth, water over the cloth and keep in a rather warm, dark place till the seeds begin to come up, when the cloth should be removed, and the box brought to the light. Avoid bright sunshine till the plants get established. Study the germinating table to know when to look for the plants. Keep the soil always moist but not wet. If allowed to dry out the sprouting seeds will be ruined; if kept too moist the seeds will rot. When big enough transplant into other boxes if it is not safe to put them in the garden bed, then reset them out-doors later. You will thus prepare for a fine summer and autumn display of flowers.



TRAY OF SEEDLING PLANTS.

As soon as the garden can be worked you can sow hardy annuals out-doors. Such seeds as Alyssum, Candytuft, Calendula, Chrysanthemum, Calliopsis, Delphinium, Eschscholtzia, Erysimum, Gaillardia, Helianthus, Linaria, Marigold, Nigella, Sweet Pea, Morning Glory and Grasses may be sown where the plants are to bloom, thinning them out as they grow. If you do not have seeds, order them at once. In most of the States seeds of these and many other flowers may be sown as late as the middle of May, but it is better to get and sow them earlier if possible.

All of the flowers I have mentioned are easily grown, and I can recommend them to my little friends for their garden, as well as to older folks who have had but little experience in flower culture. Sometimes it is preferable to have a protected bed out-doors for starting seeds. This is easily made. Select a sunny place at the south side of a wall or building, make a simple frame, cover with a sash and let it stand closed for several days till the soil becomes warm, then sow the seeds as advised above. After sowing and labeling cover the soil with cheese cloth, and water, keeping moist till the plants appear, when the cloth must be removed. On bright days do not fail to lift the sash, or the heat may ruin your plants. Transplant as before recommended.

I wish everyone of you, my dear little friends, would put up bird boxes and study bird life. Do not touch the eggs or the nest, or the birds may leave. Watch the actions of the birds in early morning and late evening, as well as in day time. You may notice and scare away bird enemies by this means. And I wish you would all plant a little garden of your own. You will thus become interested in Nature, and the experience will be a source of pleasure to you throughout life. Your Friend,

LaPark, Pa., Mar. 25, 1912. The Editor.

Disbudding Almond.—A subscriber complains that she found her Flowering Almond disbudded last spring, but could not determine what did the mischief. It was doubtless due to English Sparrows, and done early in the spring, when the birds were hungry. The Sparrows will also attack Peas and other garden vegetables when the plants are young and tender. To say the least, they are a nuisance. If they could sing they would have one redeeming feature. As it is their chirrup is about like a rasping saw, and they drive away and destroy the native birds that sing and devour our troublesome insects.

Scale on Fern.—When a Fern becomes badly infested with Scale, the fronds should be cut off at the ground and burned. Then apply water sparingly till new fronds start, which will be free from the pest. When only a few scales show upon the fronds spray thoroughly with lime and sulphur solution, using one part solution to fifteen parts water, or just enough to give a silvery tint to the plant. This will mostly prove effectual in eradicating the pest. If it does not, make another application in a week or ten days, which will certainly prove effectual.

Scale.—Mrs. W., of Michigan, sends a spray of a Crassula that is troubled with scale, and asks how to eradicate the pest. If she will dip the plant in a liquid made by adding one part lime and sulphur solution to fifteen parts water, having the liquid rather hot, and shaking the surplus off after immersion, the scale will disappear. The liquid should be of such strength that it will give a silvery hue to the foliage.

A VINE-CLAD HOME.

FROM A flower-loving subscriber at Oil City, Pennsylvania, the Editor recently received a parcel by mail which proved to be a large, handsome photograph and a letter of description. The photograph reduced in size, is given on this page, and following is the interesting letter:

Mr. Editor:—I am mailing herewith a photograph of my home, with a large Dutchman's Pipe Vine covering the end of the porch, and at the right-hand corner a vine of *Clematis paniculata* in full bloom. This *Clematis* was a mailing-size plant five years ago. Now as you see, it reaches to the top of the porch railing a distance of twelve feet.

The Dutchman's Pipe was eight years old when photographed, and until last summer there was never a bug or a worm on it. But last summer there were big black caterpillars on it. I tried to

color and not conspicuous. The vine is hardy, and grows rapidly. The enemy referred to is easily overcome by spraying with arsenate of lead, an ounce to five gallons of water. The eggs are found upon the under surface of the leaves soon after the leaves develop, and if the vine is vigilantly watched they may be destroyed before they become injurious.

Both the Dutchman's Pipe Vine (*Aristolochia siphon*) and *Clematis paniculata* can be raised from seeds, but it requires some patience, as the seeds germinate tardily. They are usually sold at five cents per packet.

Twelve Best Shrubs.—The twelve best flowering shrubs for the latitude of Massachusetts are as follows: *Spiraea prunifolia*



A VINE-CLAD HOME.

get rid of them by burning the leaves on which they were found, and often turned on the hose in such a way as to dislodge them. A big black moth or butterfly was often seen fluttering around the vine, and probably laid the eggs. How shall I get rid of the pest the coming summer? The plant has always been so healthy, and I am so proud of it I cannot bear to lose it. Many of the leaves were nine inches long, and six inches wide.

Our house is built on very sloping ground, which accounts for the very high porch. I think the *Clematis* is really a good example of what can be done with mailing-size plants.—Mrs. W. E. Askey, Oil City, Pa., Feb. 26, 1912.

The Dutchman's Pipe Vine is one of the most attractive of foliage vines for covering a building, a summer house or an old tree. The flowers are odd in appearance, and come early in spring, before the foliage develops. They are freely produced, but are dark brown in

fl. pl., *Spiraea Reevesii*, *Spiraea Van Houtte*, Purple Lilac, *Deutzia crenata* fl. pl., *Deutzia gracilis*, *Philadelphus grandiflorus*, *Hydrangea arborescens sterilis*, *Hydrangea paniculata*, *Viburnum plicatum*, *Spiraea Anthony Waterer* and *Weigela floribunda*. Many others might be added, as *Hibiscus Syriacus*, *Viburnum opulus sterilis*, *Forsythia*, Honeysuckle, Sweet Currant, Flowering Almond, *Cytisus laburnum*, etc. The first named however, will be found generally satisfactory and are best.

Easter Lilies South.—The Easter Lilies are hardy in the South, but should be lifted and separated when they become crowded in the clump. Give them sandy, porous soil and a sunny situation.

PERMANENT VINES.

ALL WHO beautify their surroundings know the value of permanent vines for decoration, as they give an artistic touch to the home, and afford grateful shade. When given a suitable location they are neither trouble nor expense after the first year, and increase in beauty each year. Some of these hardy vines do not flower, but are graceful, and have beautiful foliage. The English Ivy is an evergreen, fine for covering old tree trunks, walls and chimneys. It is hardy after it once gets a start, but will need protection the first winter.

No vine in years has been so popular as the Crimson Rambler Rose, and this is deservedly so, as it is hardy, vigorous, and makes quite a showing the second year. The flowers are very numerous, bright crimson, and bloom in large trusses of from thirty to forty flowers each. The plants bloom but once a year, in June, but remain in bloom for some time. As we drive about in June we see this Rose making all verandas gay. The shoots grow from ten to twelve feet in one season. One bush I know of was planted at the roots of a tall Pine tree, had circled around and around the tall trunk, climbing out among the branches, and when in bloom was perfectly beautiful. The foliage is bright green the whole season, making the vine attractive anywhere it is placed. The Philadelphia Rambler is the same as the Crimson Rambler, except that it is a more intense crimson, and blooms two weeks earlier. There are both white and yellow ramblers, vigorous growers, blooming in clusters like the crimson.

Then there are the so-called hardy ever-blooming climbing Roses, but in severe climates they must be protected during the winter by laying the vines down and covering them with leaves. In this locality (central Kentucky) Reine Marie Henriette, the best of this class, has stood six winters without protection, and sometimes the winters are quite severe here. The flowers of this Rose are a rich crimson, cup-shaped, beautifully formed, very double, and sweet scented.

Is there anything prettier than a well-grown vine of the hardy Wisteria in full bloom? It will grow to the top of a second story veranda, bearing in early spring drooping racemes of violet-blue and lilac flowers. The Clematis is a very fine veranda vine, and in July we are attracted by the velvety purple stars of the Jackmanii around very many homes. Later, in August and September, we are greeted with the sweet fragrance and the beautiful masses of fleecy white, of the Clematis paniculata, which blooms after most hardy climbers are through flowering. We see much of the Ampelopsis Veitchii, or Boston Ivy, beautifully draping the walls of homes and churches in the cities, but seldom see it in the country. In the fall these leaves change with the foliage of the trees to crimson and yellow.

Stamford, Ky., Jan. 18, 1912. Laura Jones.

A LETTER FROM FLORIDA.

DEAR FLOWER FOLKS:—My garden has done well, and I am now picking American Beauty Roses that would vie with any of the June blooms North. I mulch my plants with boiled Castor beans, as they are a good insecticide as well as fertilizer. I used the tea on my Bougainvillea that was troubled by a worm from the ground, and now there is no sign of it, and the flowers are lovely and stay out so long. I wrote of my Poinsettias, and can now report on their beauty and longevity of bloom. They are the gayest of garden flowers, having bracted blooms as large as a dinner plate, and of the brightest of scarlet.

The Prayer Bean vines had quite a crop of their pretty red and black seeds. When strung



DOUBLE HIBISCUS.

into necklaces they are handsome, and wear well. The China tree is in full bloom here, in fact is hardly ever without the sweet flowers that remind me of our Northern Lilac that don't do well here. The Hibiscus shrubs bloom daily, and the flowers are so like those of the Hollyhock. They keep just as well without water as with it, and so

are much used for decorative bouquets. The Allamanda covers a large trellis, and bears large golden bells the year round. It blew down lately, and two men were required to put it up, even after many of the long, willowy branches were cut back. Antigonon leptopus, still in bloom, is one of our prettiest vines, and is attractive to bees and butterflies. The climbing Solanum is now hanging with lovely bunches of purple blooms that are much admired. I had a two quart mixing bowl in which I grew Lily of the Valley in moss. The pips bloomed beautifully, and I picked many of the flowers for shut-ins and sick friends for Christmas. I also have some Oxalis in moss that are blooming nicely. I shall try more of these later. Mrs. W. J. Nesbitt.

Brevard Co., Fla., Jan. 13, 1912.

Experience with Verbenas.—

Two years ago I raised some Verbena plants from seeds, but the dry weather destroyed all but one plant, the flowers of which were dark purple. In the fall the seeds fell off and germinated the next spring. I had so many plants I could not give enough of them away, and to my amazement, when the plants came into bloom they were of all colors. They bloomed freely until after severe frosts.

Mrs. Hattie E. Whitmore.

Henderson Co., Ky., Jan. 24, 1912.



CULTURE OF RICINUS.

COMPARATIVELY little attention seems to be paid to the use of the various kinds of Ricinus, or Castor Bean, as foliage bedders. They are of easy culture, and in a hot, sunny position will produce a gorgeous tropical bed in a short time.

There are several kinds of Ricinus, the tallest-growing of which is Ricinus Borboniensis arboreus, which is red-colored, but the individual leaves of this variety are smaller than those of the green-leaved Ricinus Zanzibariensis maculatis. A specimen of the latter in our yard had leaves measuring up to 37 inches across, the plant proper standing about seven feet tall. Where two or more plants can be



RICINUS, OR CASTOR BEAN PLANT.

grouped, it is desirable to have both the green and red-foliaged sorts.

Plant the seeds in April in boxes in the house or hotbed. Planting out-doors directly is seldom successful here as the spring weather is often cold and wet, causing the seeds to rot.

When the plants are five or six inches high, transplant to their permanent positions, being careful to disturb the roots as little as possible; shade until established. At first the growth is slow, but about the beginning of July their rapid development commences, which continues through the balance of the season, almost up to frost time. To secure this growth, however, the plants require a very sunny exposure, and must have an abundance of water. Water that has been exposed to the sun during the day is decidedly better than cold water fresh from the pump or faucet; and an occasional application of soap-suds will materially benefit the plants.

I have found but one insect to attack this

plant, and that is a stalk-boring worm, which appears about transplanting time. Watch the plants at this period, and if you discover a hole in the stem of the plant, several inches above the ground, you are advised of the intruder's presence. The remedy is to carefully split the stem upward several inches by means of a small knife, beginning at the opening bored by the worm, which will reveal the insect snugly imbedded in the hollowed stem. This method I have found to be very successful, having in one case removed three worms from one plant, which, after being tied to a support, developed nearly as well as the other undisturbed plants. No doubt the scheme of forming a tube of cardboard about the stem of the plant will help to forestall the attacks of this insect.

Otto A. Stiller.

Green Bay, Wisc., Mar. 1, 1912.

Window Plants From Seeds.—

I have very good luck starting plants from seeds of Coleus, Heliotrope and Geraniums. I take quart cans or flower pots, fill them with sandy garden soil, and sow the seeds carefully in rings. Then I cut a thick piece of paper and one of muslin to fit inside over the soil, and all the water I give them is over this covering. Then I look up how long it takes the seeds of the various kinds to come up, and mark the time on the outside of the can, and set the cans back where they will keep warm. I keep the soil moist but not wet, and never allow it to dry out. When the plants should appear, as indicated on the cans I remove the cover and set in the light, but not sun. When the third and fourth leaf appear I pick the plants out and transplant an inch apart into shallow trays, and later I pot them or set them in the garden bed.

Emma Avise.

Colusa, Ill., Mar. 9, 1912.

A Flower Barrel.—I intend to make an ornament for the yard this year as follows: Take a barrel and bore holes in the bottom for drainage, also some large ones around the sides about midway. Then place a thick layer of cinders over the bottom and fill with very rich soil from the barn-yard. In this plant a large Canna in the center, and tall Nasturtiums around the edge and in the holes in the sides. I know many people advise poor soil for Nasturtiums, but I find they do better for me if well fed. I shall keep this barrel well watered, and feed liberally with liquid fertilizers, and I expect it will be very agreeable to the eyes.

Orpha.

Fayette Co., W. Va., Feb. 14, 1912.

Keeping Plants.—I kept my plants from freezing during the past winter when the mercury was twenty-two degrees below zero by setting an oil lamp in the midst of them. I have a plant table made to order, the top is of galvanized iron turned up an inch all around. On this I can spray my plants with out fear of the water getting on the floor.

Mrs. C. S. Hunting.

Jackson Co., Mo., Feb. 19, 1912.

DUPLEX CALLA.

I HAVE HAD a Calla Lily for several years. Last year there were two blooms on the one stem, one perfect, the other lacking the yellow center. Both came out at the same time. This year it has another double or duplex blossom, though a little different. At first there seemed to be just one blossom, but about the time it was fully open, another appeared, coming right out of the center of the first. The yellow center is inside the second bloom. Both are pure white, and perfect in every other way. No one here has ever seen anything like it, and I wondered if it was unusual for them to have these double blossoms. My Calla had fourteen blooms on it last year, and has had eight this year, so far.

Mrs. G. F. Parks.

Lane Co., Oreg., Jan. 24, 1912.



SINGLE PETUNIAS.

They were in full bloom when the snow came, and I had to bid them good-bye for this year.

Geauga Co., O., Nov. 16, 1911.

Ima.

Cob Cactus.—This Cactus is a beautiful plant. As it is hardy here it is no trouble to us. It grows from six to ten inches high, and branches, producing quite a bunch of bloom. Sometimes on one Cactus there are from four to twelve scarlet blossoms at one time. The plants do not have long spines, like some of the Cactuses. Every lover of flowers ought to try a few of the Cob Cactus. I know they will be pleased.

Mrs. May Senn.

Fiske Co., Tex., Feb. 1, 1912.

Zinnias.—Those who live in the dry States should try Zinnias. The past season was a very dry one here, but my Zinnias were beautiful. I just had the common, old-fashioned ones. I want to try the large German Zinnia next year.

May McF.

Clinton Co., Mo., Dec. 11, 1911.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN OREGON.

I AM GLAD I live in a country where plants grow and increase rapidly. I shipped my Chrysanthemums two hundred miles, and could bring only small plants. This fall I have had bushels of flowers in spite of a succession of frosts, and to everyone who asked me for plants I said, "come, and welcome." I might have said "more than welcome," for I would be pleased to see the brush and weeds in neighboring yards give way to borders of flowers. I can recall many pleasant instances, the result of helping people to get started in floriculture. I have received many plants in exchange, and have found people mostly generous. But the old saying is still true, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

L. M. Magnus.

Coos Co., Oreg., Dec. 28, 1911.

**The Zanzibar Balsam.**—I had a

beautiful red Zanzibar Balsam, or, as some call it, Impatiens Sultan, growing in an eight-quart pail which was as large as a shrub, and it was a lovely sight, with the brilliant red flowers like stars, set thickly all over the background of glossy leaves. They root very easily from cuttings, but are very sensitive to cold, and are only reliable in winter when kept in a warm room. I have a nice one this winter in my sitting room, which is heated by coal.

Mrs. T. J. Nagle.

New London Co., Ct., Dec. 17, 1911.

Coliseum Ivy.—This is easily raised from seeds, and is the prettiest trailer for vases and baskets that I am acquainted with. I think it is hardy south of Massachusetts, as it will live with protection here in Maine.

Alice.

Cumberland Co., Me., Dec. 14, 1911.

Note.—Coliseum Ivy is *Linaria Cymbalaria*, often called Kenilworth Ivy. It grows beautifully in a dense shade, and is fine for a north window that the sun-rays do not reach; also for carpeting the ground between buildings or under trees where it is too shady for grass.—Ed.



Portulaca.—Portulaca is an old-fashioned flower, and one not useful for cutting, but as a border along a drive I found it very pretty and bright. It bordered a long Geranium bed, and I found this bed was the favorite among the men of the family.

Mrs. C. E. Mann.

Boulder Co., Colo., Nov. 3, 1911.

PONDEROSA LEMON.

TWO YEARS ago I bought a small plant of the Ponderosa Lemon. It bloomed last spring, and set quite a quantity of fruit. Soon after the fruit began to set I noticed the ants were gnawing the stems at the base of the young fruit, attracted by a small scale insect by which the plant was infested. I rubbed the scale insect loose with a soft cloth, and the ants ceased their depredations. I saved six of the small lemons. As the fruit grew I had to stake each limb separately, and even then one of them became so heavy it broke the stem. The other five grew to an enormous size, and are now ripe. They make good lemonade and pies, used just like



PONDEROSA LEMON.

the ordinary lemons. However, lemonade which is made of the fruit before it is entirely ripe is likely to have a bitter taste after it stands a while. The plant grows in ordinary potting soil, such as I use for Geraniums. In winter I set it in one corner of a room where it will not freeze and then water it sparingly. In summer I set the candy bucket in which it is growing, on the lawn, where it is shaded a little at noon by the overhanging boughs of a Maple, and let the grass grow long around the bucket, in order to protect the roots from the hot sun. It should not be allowed to suffer for water in the growing season. Mrs. L. F. Clark.

Sebastian Co., Ark., Feb. 24, 1912.

Dusty Miller.—I can find nothing finer for a border plant than this old favorite Dusty Miller. Keep it well trimmed. If allowed to have its own sweet way it will be too scraggy. I have always found it hardy. It sets off a bed of scarlet Geraniums as nothing else can.

Mrs. Mary L. Warren.

Androscoggin Co., Me.,
Feb. 6, 1912.

[Note.—*Cineraria maritima* is the true name of "Dusty Miller." *Cineraria Diamond* is the much improved variety, being dwarf, compact, and very silvery in foliage. It is easily grown from seeds.—Ed.]



CINERARIA DIAMOND.

Cactuses.—We have quite a collection of Cactuses, both indoors and outdoors. They are extremely interesting, of slow growth, but repay an hundred fold for the little attention lavished upon them. Some of the blooms are indescribably lovely.

Mrs. M. T. P.
San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 28, 1911.

FLOWERS FOR TENANTS.

FOR PERSONS who do not own their own homes I know of nothing better than Dahlias, Cannas, Tuberous Begonias, Gloxinias, Hyacinths, Easter Lilies, Crocuses, Narcissi, Gladioli and other flowering bulbs. They may be planted and grown during the winter or summer, according to their individual habits, when the tenant is settled for the year, then dried off and easily moved any distance. I also advise such persons to raise a few Geraniums and Fuchsias. Coleus plants are easily raised from seeds and are lovely for porches or for beds, developing in a few weeks as do Acacias and winter-blooming Carnations. These plants grow so quickly, and the seeds are so cheap, that the plants may be thrown away and new ones started when you are all settled in the new home. As most tenants move early in the spring, and live all summer in one place, so as to raise a few vegetables for the table, they can easily raise such annuals as Alyssum, Asters in variety, Balsams, Celosia, Centaurea, Cosmos (especially the early flowering), Petunias, Portulaca, Salvia, Scabiosa, Nasturtiums, Verbenas, Zinnias and Morning Glories. With even the ones mentioned one may have a glorious display of flowers all summer, and can save seeds of the choicest ones to sow the next year.

Orpha.

Fayette Co., W. Va., Mar. 16, 1912.

Raising Cyclamen.—From a packet of seeds of violet Cyclamen I raised four plants. The seeds were sown last spring, and now two plants are in bud, one having five buds. I believe nearly every seed came up for I did not plant them all. It seems as if they are going to bloom very young for seedlings. I did not expect them to bloom until next winter. These are the first I ever had. The seeds were from six weeks to two months coming up. They were sown at different times, and the soil was not just the same for them all.

Susquehanna, Pa., Jan. 8, 1912. Subscriber.



CYCLAMEN PLANT.

Flower Borders.—I have my yard, which is a large one, laid off in borders, with walks all around the beds of flowers. I have two long Verbena beds, and two large blocks of Roses, with a large clump of white Chrysanthemums in the center of each block; and I have quite a lot of other flowers wedged in those borders. So many passing last summer would exclaim, "Oh, what a pretty flower yard!" But alas! the cold wave the 12th of November put an end to my "beauties" for this year.

Mrs. Jennie E. Fisher.
Gibson Co., Tenn., Nov. 23, 1911.

WILD FORGET-ME-NOTS.

AT LEAST a quarter of a century ago the writer went by stage from West Winfield to Morris, N. Y., a trip of some thirty miles, through that part of the state known as the Butternut Valley. It was in the spring, and the meadows in many places were blue with Forget-me-nots. The driver told us that years before, a freshet had carried away some old-fashioned gardens far above stream, and either the seeds or roots of these dainty beauties had pioneered the entire length of the stream, until their children and children's children had become so numerous



FORGET-ME-NOTS.

as to produce this "sky in the fields" effect. They were larger blooms than seen in our gardens, the damp places being exactly what they needed. The vigorous growth and profusion of bloom were indeed admirable.

A few springs ago I traveled the same route again, and nothing has ever seemed so much like a returned past as the sight of the same blue fields. They do not intrude beyond the damp places, so the owners of land do not declare them a nuisance, like the Buttercup and Ox-eye Daisy. Each year I purchase Forget-me-not seeds, and driving through waste places, I strew them along the river banks, hoping that some of them will flourish and become as much of a delight to the eyes of future travelers, as did the ones transplanted by the elements from the gardens of "somebody's grandmothers" so many years ago.

Mrs. Chas. A. Smith.

Denver, Colo., Mar. 16, 1912.

[Note.—Some years ago the Editor had occasion to spend an hour at the village of Northfield, Vt., during the month of August, and found there, along a little stream in a ravine great masses of Forget-me-nots in full bloom. The plants probably got there by the dumping of garden rubbish into the ravine. *Myosotis palustris* is the hardy perennial species that abounds along streams. It is not a native, but came to America from Europe.—Ed.]

Compost Heap.—How many readers know that a compost heap in an out-of-the-way corner of the yard is very valuable. All that is required is to save all the dead leaves, grasses, roots, sweepings from the blacksmith shop, bones, and scrapings from garden walks, making them into a pile. Wet and stir occasionally until rotted. Add some of this to your flower bed, or use it for potting soil.

Dr. A. F. Bonney.

Crawford Co., Ia., Mar. 13, 1912.

Pereskia Aculeata.—I think this is what Mrs. Carlton, of Alabama, has growing in her nail keg. The growth, thorns and flowers all indicate it.

H. J. Swift.

New York City, N. Y., Mar. 4, 1912.

BOSTON SMILAX.

IPURCHASED a three-cent packet of seeds of Boston Smilax and planted half in an eight-inch pot. To my great joy every seed germinated quickly and grew rapidly. Then I got a long, slender rod, bent it and stuck an end at each side of the pot, forming an arch. This I crossed with coarse thread from one side to the other till it formed small squares. As the vines grew I trained them around and through the meshes, and in a very short time it was a mass of the delicate vines and graceful foliage. I am sure there is not a more ornamental pot exists in any hot-house. The plants grow under any circumstances, and form a beautiful and suitable decoration for any occasion. I wish all plant lovers could see mine.

Jewells, Ga.

Mrs. J. T. Snyder.



Balsams.—I wish to tell about my Balsams. When the seedlings were about six inches high I transplanted them to where I wanted them to grow, and when they began I took out the top of each plant, which caused it to branch and look like a large bouquet.



There were so many colors, and all the flowers were very double and large, almost like Roses, the admiration of all who saw them.

Mrs. J. E. Fisher.

Gibson Co., Tenn., Nov. 23, 1911.

Scarlet Runner.—One of the easiest and most beautiful runner vines raised is the old-fashioned Scarlet Runner. I set poles for them as I would any pole Bean, and how luxuriantly they grow and blossom. Try them. They are also lovely as window vines.

Mrs. Mary L. Warren.

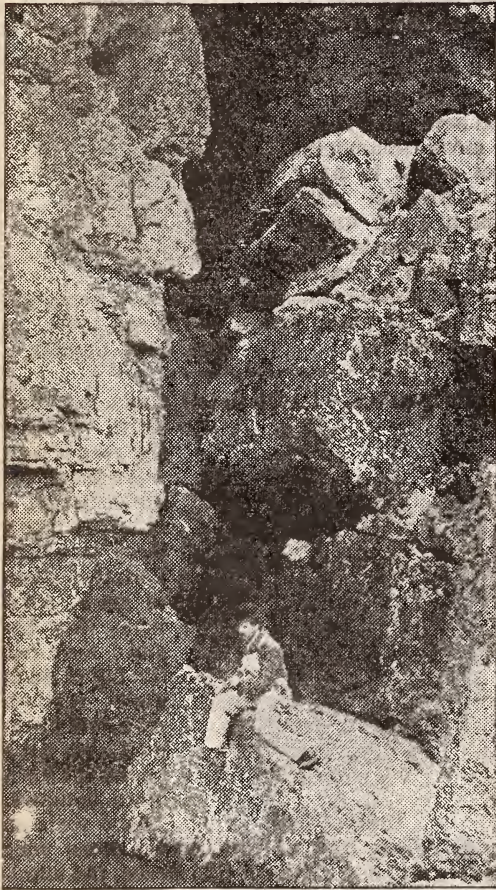
Androscoggin Co., Me., Feb. 6, 1912.

[Note.—The Scarlet Runner is prized by some for table use. The beans are productive, and can be used either green or dry. The vines are fine for covering an unsightly fence or building, and can thus be turned to good account both for flowers and fruit.]

What's in a Name!—"It is man, not God, who ranks the Rose above the Dandelion."—Clifford Howard.

THE OLD MAN'S FACE.

HERE IS A photograph of a cave near my home, Mountain View, Missouri. It is called "Old Man's Face" because of the peculiar formation of a huge rock at the entrance. A pond of water is at the base, and piles of rocks opposite the Face give the scene a picturesque and attractive aspect. The fisherman enjoying the solitude and the mountain air as well as his sport, is not an-



noyed by the noise and clamor of city life as he watches his line and muses upon things past and present. The spot is one where the lover of Nature can pleasantly and profitably spend a summer day, with only the plants and flowers and birds and insects as companions.

Howell Co., Mo., Mar. 8, 1912. Mrs. Cole.

A Good Fertilizer.—Take a five or ten-gallon crock, fill with broken bones, pour over the bones a strong solution of lye and stirring frequently leave until the bones are dissolved and the jar is full of a jelly. A tablespoonful of this in a gallon of water makes one of the finest and richest fertilizers that can be had, and at about one-tenth the cost of an equal amount of commercial fertilizers.

Dr. A. F. Bonney.

Crawford Co., Ia., Mar. 15, 1912.

SWEET PEAS.

IF THE flower-loving sisters will try planting Sweet Alyssum as a border for their Sweet Peas, I am sure they will have better luck than usual. It acts as a mulch, protecting the roots from the hot sun, is beautiful itself, and the Peas are much more so than when grown alone, being prettier because of the cool green and white carpet at their feet.

If Peas begin to turn brown and dry-looking examine closely for the red spider. Spraying from underneath, thereby wetting the under side of the leaves, will soon send the mites in search of a dryer atmosphere. Keep tobacco stems on the ground among the vines to keep off the green aphids. This should be used quite freely around plants as it is also a fertilizer. It can be obtained free at any cigar factory. If aphids has already begun its work, make a tea of the stems, and spray your vines liberally. Never mind if it does stain a few of the blooms.



If Peas are planted and cared for as they should be, they will be covered with bloom in this latitude from the middle of June until killed by frosts. Be sure to plant them early. Keep seed-pods from forming by picking freely, if you grow them for blooms, and buy seeds again for next year.

The Alyssum should be planted early also, and freely gathered, mixing the blooms with those of the Sweet Peas, and the sight will be so pleasing that you will never again grow Sweet Peas without Alyssum.

Ella Schneider.

Muskegon, Mich., Feb. 27, 1912.

Sweet Alyssum.—If you all could have seen my beautiful border of Sweet Alyssum I think you would have said, with me, that this is one of the dearest and sweetest flowers we have. It makes up into bouquets so well! Mine has been a real pleasure to me, and to others. The seeds self-sow, and I watch and transplant the wee plants in the spring, and always have plenty.

Mrs. F. G. Roach.

Roslindale Sta., Mass., Nov. 2, 1911.

Otaheite Orange Tree.—We have an Otaheite Orange tree eighteen years old that has bloomed for the twenty-fifth time. It would always bloom twice a year if it had a fair chance; but has had considerable trimming. It attracts much attention when the oranges are ripe.

Mrs. C. S. Hunting.

Jackson Co., Mo., Feb. 19, 1912.

COSMOS A FINE FALL FLOWER.

LAST SPRING I planted a few Cosmos seeds, and had only three plants to live. It was very hot and dry here most of the summer, and did not grow much till after the rains in August and did not begin to bloom until about the first of October. But they were such beauties! One had pink blooms measuring three inches across. About the 15th of October I thought it was going to freeze, and went out and dug up one of the plants, a red one, and brought it into the house. It was just beginning to bloom, and was full of buds. It kept right on blooming, and has had more than one hundred blossoms at one time. Now, Nov. 14th, it is beginning to bloom again, and is loaded with buds. It is in a gallon can. I keep it by a sunny south window, and give it plenty of water. I would advise every one to raise Cosmos.

Nettie B.

Nixon.

Custer Co.,
Neb., Nov. 14,
1911.

Petunias.

—These are very hardy here, and bloom right along in the hot dry weather without any special care, though they, of course, do better to be well cared for. I take up one or two every fall to have for winter-blooming in the house. The plants are in bloom nearly all the time, and are very pretty with their dark green leaves and velvety red blossoms.

N. B. N.

Nebraska, Nov. 14, 1911.

Scarlet Sage.—Scarlet Sage is easily raised from seeds sown in a sunny window, in early March. The plants then become large enough to set outside by the time it is safe. The seeds germinate in two weeks, but at first the plants grow slowly, and are liable to succumb to frost and neglect.

Aunt Hope.

Wayne Co., Pa., Jan. 13, 1912.

PANSIES IN ARKANSAS.

I RAISE beautiful Pansies every year, but treat them entirely as annuals, for no matter how well shaded and watered they are kept they will seldom endure our hot dry winds in the late summer.

About the first of March I fill a box with good garden soil and make it quite wet. I sow my seeds on top of this, and sift dry soil on them until they are well covered, then spread a cloth over them and keep in a dark, warm place about two weeks, until the young plants appear, then bring to the light.

I always make my Pansy bed close against a north or an east wall, and the plants are

covered with flowers until the dry winds of midsummer destroy their vitality.

Our soil is a red or yellow clay mixed with sand, while that of Polk county, where a subscriber complains of poor success, is of a whitish color, and seems rather stiff; but I have seen some very rich colored annuals, such as Petunias and Phlox grown there, and am sure Pansies would do well if properly cared for. I would suggest making the bed rich with the washings from the cow lot, and leaf mold.

There are many lovely hardy Ferns in Polk county, and a row of these on the side of your Pansy bed next to the wall, would prevent the place looking so bare after the Pansies are dead.

Mrs. T. F. Clark.

Sebastian Co., Ark., Feb. 24, 1912.

Geraniums.—My Geraniums do well. Ballade and Dina Scalarandis are now in bloom. Both have bloomed twice since I received them last spring, and the flowers are beautiful—the finest Ivy Geraniums I ever saw. Some florists claim that S. A. Nutt is the darkest Zonale Geranium grown; but I find it a bright red or crimson-scarlet. I have two darker red in color than S. A. Nutt.

Susquehanna Co., Pa., Feb. 22, 1912. Iris.



FLOWERS OF HYBRID COSMOS.



APRIL.

Hark! the voice of spring is calling:
 "Earth, awake! for life is fair;"
 On my heart the soft tones falling
 Wake the sweetest echoes there.
 All the world is full of gladness,
 Laughing brook and singing bird;
 Put away all care and sadness,
 Come where Nature's voice is heard,
Cara mia,
 Come where Nature's voice is heard.

Sweet Arbutus hides her flowers
 Where the brown leaves thickly lie;
 Golden sunshine, April showers,
 Ope the Violet's sweet, blue eye.
 Tender green the hills are showing,
 Skies above are blue and fair;
 Honey-scented winds are blowing,
 Joyous life is everywhere,
Cara mia,
 Joyous life is everywhere.

Let the dim past hide its sorrow,
 Bid the glorious present stay,
 Take no thought of the tomorrow,
 Life so sweet is ours today.
 Where the pale Wind-flower is swaying—
 Ere the Celandine departs—
 We will o'er the hills go straying,
 With the springtime in our hearts,
Cara mia
 With the springtime in our hearts.

Blanche A. Wheatley.

Bolivar, W. Va., Feb. 24, 1912.

EASTER MORN.

Ring, bells of Easter, sweet and clear,
 That all the listening earth may hear;
 In joyful tones exultant say,
 "The Lord is risen, and lives alway."

O springtime flowers, your petals fair
 Unclose, and wait upon the air
 Your rich perfumes, to greet the morn,
 And whisper hope to hearts forlorn.

Emblems of life beyond the tomb
 Where flowers of spring eternal bloom,
 O'er all that "land of pure delight,"
 Where morning never wanes to night.

Fair flowers, bloom on, the mission thine
 On earth to breathe of things divine;
 While rapturous bells their chorus ring
 In praise of Christ, our risen King.

York Co., Me., Feb. 22, 1911. Ethel Mace.

SPRING IS COMING.

Spring is coming! Now, how do I know,
 When the fields and woods are deep with snow?
 Not by the leaves, for the trees are bare;
 Not by the birds, for they are not there;
 Not by the flowers, for they're covered still;
 Not by the brook, for it's a gray, frozen rill;
 Not by the sun, for it yet hangs low;
 Not by the weather, for the rough winds blow;
 But, out mid the warm feathered flock I hear
 A clucking fowl, that ruffles when you're near,
 And gathers to herself all the eggs that are laid,
 And struts here and there, like a prim old maid.
 By this, then, I know that spring's on the way,
 When Speckle steals a nest in the mow of hay.
 Franklin Co., Mass. Lydia Wight.

RESURRECTION.

In the colder months of winter,
 When the earth is clothed in white,
 My Lily, that stood in the window,
 Was blighted by frost one night.

I touched the shriveled blossoms,
 Hung over its casket's side,
 But nothing could stay its drooping;
 In its loveliness it had died.

I placed it behind the curtains,
 Out of the light of day,
 And, as it hung withered and blackened,
 The gardener took it away.

Childlike, I cried for my Lily,
 But I mourned for it in vain,—
 And I thought, in my childish sorrow,
 It would never bloom again.

Was it three days or a hundred,—
 When the curtains I opened wide,
 In the sunny days of springtime,
 At the holy Easter-tide;—

In the light that came through the window,
 After the winter's sting,
 Stood my Lily snow-white and blooming,
 An ethereal, wonderful thing.

Whence had it come?—But I knew well
 The keeper returned it there.
 For God, who cares for the lives of all,
 Had watched o'er my Lily fair.

The death-like winter had passed by,
 The spring of new life had come,
 The Creator had breathed on my Lily fair,
 And, living, it rose from its tomb.
 Lincoln, Nebraska. Gertrude F. Richards.

SPRING'S APPROACH.

Lo! The forest bells are ringing,
 Singing each a merry song;
 And the trees are dressing gaily,
 Daily, birdies come along.

And the sweet Fern haunts are turning
 (Spurning winter's sombre brown)
 To a lovely green as airy
 And as fairy-like as down.

Now the ice upon the rivers,
 Shivers, cracks and rolls away,
 And the sparkling sunny waters,
 Show that winter's gone to stay.

When the lovely, fragrant flowers,
 And the birds and bees appear,
 Then we'll all be glad and happy,
 For the summer time is near.
 Alameda, Calif., Jan. 4, 1912. Vivian Swanson.

MY ROSARY.

Our flower of love I count them
 And one by one let fall,
 As maid upon her rosary,
 A prayer, sweetheart, for all.

Pansy and Rose and Lily,
 The Milkwort's heart of gold;
 A prayer for one long banished
 My rosary has told.

But sweetheart, in the shadow
 My tears are falling down,
 Where, on Love's sacred emblem,
 I kiss the Golden Crown.

Ina Lord McDavitt.
 Cumberland Co., N. J., Jan. 17, 1912.

THE PATRIARCH PINE.

The Pine tree in his cowl and cloak
Stands high upon the hill,
And preaches to the Beach and Oak
That all may hear who will.

His sermons tell of many things—
Of patriarchal lore—
The wisdom that a century brings
He multiplies a score.

At first he reads the ancient book,
The chronicles of old,
Of lurking warriors in each nook
And dangers in each wold.



He tells them how his brothers stood
In tall ranks everywhere,
And how within the darkest wood
The puma made her lair.

And then—it is the east wind's sigh—
He tells how axmen came,
And he, of all who pierced the sky,
Was left to bear the name.

The Pine tree is a patriarch
Who preaches wonder things—
A thousand years or more to mark
The span of life he sings.

Charles Henry Chesley.

Rockingham Co., N. H., March 17, 19r2.

THE LILAC.

The Lilac is budding,
We hail it with joy;
Its beauty and fragrance
Are without alloy.

The dear little blossoms!
How long they have prayed
To have their release,
Which old Winter delayed.

But now the big clusters
Will gladden the eye,
And greet with sweet odor
All those who pass by.

E. E. Warren.

Middlesex Co., Mass., Feb. 26, 1912.

MUSIC.

They who sing drive off the sorrow,
And bring in a cheerful day,
And for us 'tis sure to borrow
Something that will cheer the way.

E'en Nature does its singing;
Listen to the brooklet's sound,
While the notes of birds are ringing,
And 'tis cheerful all around.

St. Louis, Jan. 15, 1912.

Albert E. Vassar.

THE BLUEBIRD.

"Spring is near!" sweet and clear,
Hear the Bluebird;
Darling little harbinger
Of the joyous spring!

Tho' the ground be white with snow,
We rejoice, for well we know
When we hear your cheery trill
Nature's heart begins to thrill
With the joy of life renewed.
To her slumbering flower-brood,
With a flash of sky-blue wing,
Message sweet to us you bring:
"Spring is near!"

"Spring is near!" oh the cheer
Of that liquid call!
Little minstrel, ever dear
To the hearts of all,

Take a peep at last year's nest,
As you preen your russet breast;
Weary hearts with hope grow light
As we mark your azure flight
Where the clouds hang cold and gray,
And the leafless branches sway;
You will come again ere long
With a new lilt in your song:
"Spring is here!"

Blanche A. Wheatley.

Jefferson Co., W. Va., Feb. 12, 1912.

BACK ON THE FARM.

There are meadows pink with clover,
Where the wild bees hum by day,
And the Bobolink warbles over
His jubilant roundelay;
There's a yard of old-time posies—
Hollyhock, Mint and Balm,
And a wall o'ergrown with Roses
Back on the dear old farm.

Is the play-house damp and musty
Under the Maple tree?
Is the garret dim and dusty,
The same as it used to be?
And the brown mouse, would he scurry
If he heard me come again?
And the nesting Phoebe hurry
Out through the broken pane?

I can smell the scent of the clover,
I can hear the hum of the bees,
And I dream my young dreams over
In the shade of the Maple trees;
The yard with its old-time posies
Breathes ever a subtle charm,
And life has been filled with Roses
That grew on the dear old farm.

Florence Josephine Boyce.

Wash. Co., Vt., Feb. 12, 1912.

WILD FLOWERS.

Over the little bridge,
Into a shady dale;
Climb over the leafy ridge
And enter the flower vale.
There flowers in plenty grow,
Pretty and bright and gay.
In the zephyrs soft they blow,
Like sunbeams of the day.

Lena C. Ahlers.

Henderson Co., Ill., Feb. 12, 1912.

THE HILLS OF SAND.

I dreamed I dwelt in southern land,
Where flowers in winter blow,
And then I woke mid hills of sand
All glistening white with snow.

But O! the dear old hills of sand
In winter's lap caressed,
Are fair and dear as southern land,
With Roses on her breast.

Valentine, Neb.

Mary Babb.



SEEDS OF BEST VEGETABLES!

Enough for the Family Garden, Only 10 Cents.

Beet, Crosby's Egyptian.—A quick-growing Beet of good shape, smooth, very dark red, tender, sweet, rich and of fine flavor. Regarded as the best of Beets for family use. Oz. 5 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 12 cts, 1 lb. 40 cts.

Cabbage, Select Early Jersey Wakefield.—This is the earliest Cabbage in cultivation, and the strain offered bears heads almost twice the size of the common Wakefield Cabbage, while it is short-stemmed, very solid and can be used throughout the season. It is sure to head, and is sweet, crisp and delicious, either raw or cooked. Per oz. 12 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 40 cts, 1 lb. \$1.50.

Cabbage, Excelsior Late Flat Dutch.—For the main crop this is the best of all varieties of Cabbage. Every plant forms an immense solid head, sweet, crisp, tender; does not often burst, and keeps well throughout the winter. Per oz. 12 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 40 cts, 1 lb. \$1.50.

Onion, Extra Early Flat Red.—An excellent fine grained Onion, red, early-maturing, large, productive, tender, solid; keeps well. Will produce fine onions the first season from seed. Oz. 20 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 60 cts, 1 lb. \$2.25.

Lettuce, Improved Hanson.—Undoubtedly the best Lettuce for the cottage garden; forms compact, yellowish green, beautifully frilled heads, tender, crisp and delicious; the plants do not quickly run to seed. Per oz. 8 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 25 cts, 1 lb. 80 cts.

Parsnip, Improved Guernsey.—Really the best of all Parsnips. The roots grow quickly to large size, are of fine form, and when cooked are tender, sweet and delicious. Can be left in the bed till spring. Per pkt. 3 cts, oz. 8 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 20 cts, 1 lb. 50 cts.

Cucumber, Early White Spine.—A standard variety, with vigorous, healthy vines, bearing an abundance of large, even-shaped fruit, and unsurpassed for either slicing or pickling. It is without a doubt the finest Cucumber in cultivation. Per oz. 10 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 25 cts, 1 lb. 75 cts.

Radish, Choice Mixed.—For the family garden a mixture of early, medium and late sorts is most satisfactory, as the Radish bed will thus supply the table throughout the season. I offer a first-class mixture of the best sorts, that will be sure to please. Oz. 5 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 15 cts, 1 lb. 50 cts.

Tomato, Matchless.—A new Tomato, surpassing all others in earliness and productiveness; fruit large, in clusters, smooth, rich red, solid, of fine flavor, and not liable to rot; a very good Tomato. Oz. 15 cts, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 60 cts, 1 lb. \$2.00.

Turnip, Purple-top White Globe.—This new variety surpasses all others in quality, productiveness, and long keeping. Its growth is quick, flesh white, crisp, tender and sweet; excelling all other varieties for table use. For feeding stock it is of great value. Oz. 5 cts, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. 15 cts, 1 lb. 50 cts.



Only 10 Cents

for the above 10 packets, enough to plant your vegetable garden. Ask your friends to send with you. For each club of three

(30 cents) I will send the following choice seeds:

Bean, Improved Red Valentine.—An early, hardy, most productive stringless bush or snap Bean, free from rust, and bearing till frost, by successive plantings. Pods large, in big clusters, tender and of fine flavor when cooked. Valuable for market as well as family use. 2-oz. packet 5 cts, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint 12 cts, 1 pint 20 cts, 1 quart 35 cts, mailed.

Corn, Country Gentleman.—This is one of the finest varieties of Corn in cultivation; of delicious flavor, tender, very sweet and remaining useful for a long time. It is medium early and very productive, every stalk bearing from two to four ears. The ears are of good size, and well filled with pearly-white grains of great depth. 2 oz. 5 cts, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint 12 cts, 1 pint 20 cts, 1 quart 35 cts.

Peas, Bliss Everbearing.—The most delicious of all Peas, while the vines do well in any good soil and are wonderfully productive. The pods are very large, and the Peas green, wrinkled, sweet and tender. This Pea is of surpassing quality, and should be grown in every garden. 2-oz. packet 5 cts, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint 12 cts, 1 pint 20 cts, 1 quart 35 cts, mailed.

☞ These three, one packet each, mailed for 12 cts, or free to anyone sending 30 cts. for three collections above offered. Address **GEO. W. PARK, La Park, Lancaster Co., Pa.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

From South Dakota.—Mr. Park:—I plant the streets full of flowers—I mean 20 rods long in front of the "bide-a-wee" gardens, both outside and inside the cement walk, just on purpose for poor children and folks having no homes to pick and enjoy, and let me tell you the wealthy of our town know better than to "monkey" with these flowers. J. H. Berry.

Douglas Co., S. D., Oct. 26, 1911.

From Michigan.—Mr. Park:—A ride down the river in the fall is very pleasant. There are such fine Ferns, and the banks are overhung by the Bush Cranberry, with its beautiful bunches of red fruit. We gather them for jelly and marmalade. They have a slightly bitter taste, but fruit is so scarce that they are quite a treat in winter. By the river, also, is the wild Clematis, that blooms freely, and is a mass of white feathered seeds throughout the autumn.

Gladys L. Waterman.

Roscommon Co., Mich., Feb. 1, 1912.

From Pennsylvania.—Mr. Park:—I believe those who do not love flowers are devoid of the finer senses. As a rule people enjoy a ramble through the woods and ravines when they are decked with flowers, and even the birds and other living things seem to be happier because of the earth's beauty at that season. That person must be very dull or lacking in refinement who does not enjoy a plant or flower brought to brighten his sick-room. And children are generally admirers of the beauty of Nature when roaming the fields and meadows in summer time, as are also older people. Uncle Dudley.

Titusville, Pa., Sept. 20, 1911.

From Arkansas.—Mr. Park:—I wish to tell you what comfort and help your little Magazine has been to me for years. Part of my life has been spent in the city, with many privations, but I have a home in sunny Arkansas, where the climate is delightful, and where the birds and wild flowers are around me in abundance. Here the humblest may own a home of their own. I shall be glad to write to anyone enclosing a stamp who longs for a home of their own, as I did. I am not a land agent nor have I anything to sell, but I will answer in gratitude for the little cosy home I now have. Mrs. A. A. Roberts.

King, Sevier Co., Ark., Jan. 3, 1912.

Dear Mr. Park:—The first time I saw your Magazine was in 1892, when I was visiting a lady who had been a subscriber for several years. She let me have her Magazine to read, and I have been a reader ever since, and have sent in other subscriptions besides. I want a tuberous-rooted Apios with rich, deep purple flowers. When is the best time to get the tubers and start them, and are they hardy? I want four vines, purple (Apios), white (Cinnamon Vine), pink and yellow. What would be nice for the last two colors?

Mrs. H. Flanigan.

Montg. Co., Ind., Nov. 22, 1911.

Ans.—For purple, I would recommend Clematis viticella; for white, Clematis paniculata; for pink, Lathyrus latifolius, Pink Beauty; for yellow, a Honeysuckle. These are all hardy plants that will last for years, when once established. Most of them can be propagated from seeds.

Dear Editor:—Some write that they do not like to live on a ranch or farm. I, for one, would not give up the farm for the city. I should hate to be cooped up like a chicken. On a farm or a ranch you can have all the live stock you want, flowers, vegetables and berries, and not trouble the neighbors, while the children have liberties and innocent amusements that they could not have in town or city. I love a grove of tall Pine, and Oak and Hickory. My little boys say that we are more like chums than mother and sons. I enclose some seeds of a Thistle-like plant with variegated leaves and pinkish flowers. I call it Crown of Thorns. What is its true name? I also send for name, pressed scarlet flowers I found at the water's edge. I love the little Magazine and will have it as long as I live.

Navajo Co., Ariz., Nov. 18, 1911.

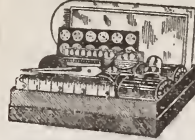
Ans.—The seeds and description answer to that of Carduus Marianus. The scarlet flower is a Lobelia.

Mary M. Burk.

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Takes picture 1 1/8x1 1/8 inches. With plates, paper, chemicals, etc.; leatherette, covered, full instructions so that any small boy or girl can take pictures. The complete outfit will be sent you securely packed and delivered for only 25 cents or 3 for 60 cents.

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Send only 25 cents and we will mail you this handsome Embroidery Corset Cover made of good quality lawn; Ribbon draw entirely around front and back and finished with large bow; Arm holes edged with pretty lace; has draw string; sizes 32 to 44 bust measure. Be sure

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG OF NEW SPRING STYLES

to state size wanted.

If you do not find this Corset cover better value than you can buy elsewhere, send it right back and we will promptly refund your money, also postage.

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EXTENSION BRACELET FREE

This handsome Gold Bracelet, set with sparkling Amethysts given for selling 20 NEW MOTTO PICTURES 10c each. We trust you. Write for 20 pictures. **SEM ART COMPANY** Dept. 244, Battle Creek, Mich.

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\$2 Hair Switch Sent on Approval. Choice of Natural wavy or straight hair. Send a lock of your hair, and I will mail a 22 inch short stem fine human hair switch to match.

If you find it a big bargain remit \$2 in ten days, or sell 8 and GET YOUR SWITCH FREE. Extra shades a little more. Include 6c postage.

Free beauty book showing latest style of hair dressing—also high grade switches, pompadours, wigs, puffs, etc. Women wanted to sell my hair goods. **ANNA AYERS, Dept. A 532**

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300 LATEST SONGS & MUSIC 10c

"Listen to that Jangle Band," "Osgalala," "Yum Yum Tree," "On a Monkey Honey moon," "Blondy," "Any Little Girl that's a Nice Little Girl," "I've Got the Time," "I've Got the Place," "On Mobile Bay," "Casey Jones," "Sadie Salome," "Funny Face," "Railroad Rag," "Moonlight Glide," "You're Just the Boy for Me," "Wop, Wop, Wop," "Outy," "Silver Bell," "My Maracoon," "I've Got Rings on My Fingers," "By the Light of the Silvery Moon," "Put on Your Old Gray Bonnet," "Baby Doll," "Pony Boy," "Honey Boy," "Red Wing," "Holy City," &c. **BIG BOOK** of over 300 Latest Song Hits; War, Coon, Comio, Love, Irish, &c. Best and Biggest Collection of SONGS AND MUSIC ever offered. Also Big Cat. & List, a \$1 Due Bill and a Gold Prize Ticket. ALL sent Post Paid for only 10 cents or 3 lots 25c. **DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OFFER.** You'll be Delighted. Address: **IDEAL MUSIC CO., HURLEYVILLE, N. Y.**



MAKE \$500 A MONTH THIS SUMMER

With **LONG'S** Crispette Machine

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FAIRS, PARKS, SUMMER RESORTS, CARNIVALS, ON STREET CORNERS, STORES, ETC.

Think how freely pleasure seekers spend money. It rolls in like water. Get a good location and big income is assured. Start anywhere—makes no difference. I tell you how to succeed. New man in Michigan sold 10,000 crispettes first week. It's a great business. Great fortunes are made in nickel propositions. Crispettes sell for a nickel. Get my story. Write today. See what there is in this proposition for you.

W. Z. LONG, 497 High St., Springfield, O

CORRESPONDENCE.

Bath for Birds.—Mr. Park:—Last summer, during hot weather, I kept a shallow pan of water near the house for the use of the birds, and the Robins and many others enjoyed it, drinking from it and bathing in it every day. I always put fresh water in every morning, and found the birds waiting. But one morning, as I came down to fill the pan, what did I see but a pile of feathers from the little gray bird that I had so often admired in the bath. It made me sick all over. It scared the birds, and it was many days before they came back. I had the blues every time I saw its mate alone and sad. I always chased the cats away before, but was more vigilant afterward. It seems useless to encourage the birds to come near the house while there are cats prowling around watching for bird-life. It seems cruel to lure them near to become a prey to their mortal enemy, the bird-cat. **E. S. Louisville, Ky., Oct. 11, 1911.**

From North Carolina.—Mr. Park:—I have a Ricinus or Castor Oil plant which is seven feet high, with leaves that measure thirty inches across. It is odd, but helps to give a yard a tropical look. I have a bronze Canna in a five-bushel box. It forms a clump seven feet high, and is very showy. My Scarlet Sage beds are royal. I have never found a more attractive or reliable flower. The little plants come up over our yard, wherever the seeds fall. Ever since the rains came the beds have been gorgeous. The Violets are now in full bloom. Here they bloom every month of the year that has an r in it. I have watched them, and know that it is true. Mine were a mass of blue last January. I have Japanese Morning Glories, and they are so large, strong and hardy, and such rapid climbers, I think they are an improvement on the old kinds. I have a Moon Vine, but the bloom is small, a pale blue mixed with white.



Regina R. Bowman,

Guilford Co., N. C., Sept. 26, 1911.

From West Virginia.—The other day when the October number of the Floral Magazine came, I spent the evening reading the articles from beginning to the end, and then turned back and re-read them. When I came to the announcement that the medical advertisements would be discontinued, I was very glad indeed, for they were unattractive and unsightly, painfully so, and detracted from the appearance of the Magazine. Although I found all the articles very attractive and pleasing, I was especially pleased with the articles of Mrs. Truslow of Florida, or perhaps I should say from Florida, (for West Virginia claims Mrs. Truslow as her own). I was charmed with Mrs. Georgina Townsend's delightful description of her visit to the mountains of California, where the scarlet Delphiniums grow and bloom in such luxuriant splendor. Next to the pleasure of visiting such places oneself and seeing the flowers in their native habitat, is the pleasure of reading such delightful descriptions of them in which one can almost see the flowers glowing in their unrivaled richness and splendor. I hope that Mrs. Truslow and Mrs. Townsend will each continue to charm us with the grace of their magic pens.

Mason Co., W. Va., Oct. 10 1911. Mrs. Ada Gist.

Ill-treating Animals.—A subscriber from Mitchell, Iowa, writes truthfully upon this subject as follows:

Mr. Park:—Parents should always teach their children to be kind to the living creatures about them. Children who are allowed to abuse the cats and dogs and other animals will grow up selfish and cruel. God makes no mistakes. He gives us the dumb animals for our use, and they deserve kind and considerate treatment. I believe we will be called upon to give an account of every needless pain we cause our dumb animals to suffer. Let the children be taught to be kind to the dumb domestic animals, and they will make better men and women.

Mitchell, Ia., Jan. 11, 1912. Mrs. M. E. Yager.

A REPLY TO THE JOLLY OLD BACHELOR.

When we shall wear the spurs and vote,
We'll not work harder then,
Than we do now. You just take note
We'll ape the ways of men.

When you take care of all the chicks,
You'll not have time to play;
But have to dig and scratch and pick,
And keep the hawks away.

You'll have an easy time you think,
And eat and strut and play.
But you will change your mind I think,
When you the eggs must lay.

And then perchance you try to brood,
You'd think it woeful luck,
To sit so long without much food,
And hatch an ugly duck.

Wichita, Kans., Mar. 18, 1912. An Old Hen.

LOVINE

A charming, fascinating perfume.
A \$2 value pkg. sent to anyone 10 cts.
UNION, Box 100K, Palatine, Ill.

\$2.50

per day paid one lady in each town to
distribute free circulars and take orders
for concentrated flavoring in tubes.
Permanent position.

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12

DECORATION DAY POST CARDS
12 Birthday or 12 Name or Town Greet-
ings in Gold, 10c; 3 packages for 25c;

10c

ONE HUNDRED General Assortment, 75c. Agts. wanted.
Catalog FREE. UNIVERSAL POST CARD CO., 117 W. North St., N.Y. City



WATCH RING & FREE
FOR SELLING POST CARDS
We positively give FREE a gold watch, stem-wind set,
beautifully engraved, plated watch, equal
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guaranteed 5 years and a beautiful Ring
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only 20 packages of beautiful high
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Order 20 packages, and when sold, send
us \$2, and we will positively send you the
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etc., or Cash, given for selling only 20 of our
New Mottoes and Pictures
size 12x16 in., such as, Rock of Ages, Family
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a purple martin house and take care
of 26 families of these beautiful little
birds. My martin houses
are substantially built
and perfectly ventilated,
three stories and attic
high, and have 26 apart-
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structed to attract and
colonize these useful lit-
tle neighbors. I ship to bird lovers every-
where. **Price \$12 F. O. B. Chicago.**
Tell every friend of birds that
I have built for them the most
unique and attractive hang-
ing wren house they ever saw.
Price \$5.00 at Chicago.

Address **Jos. H. Dodson,**
Director Illinois Audubon Society,
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CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.
Do not fail to order ONE of my hang-
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An ideal home
for Wrens.

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For a 2c stamp we will send you 5 handsome post
cards and explain how you can get 50 others FREE.
O. PAGE, Dept. 51, 156 Quincy Street, Chicago

WANTED—Active man in each locality. To join
this Society. Sick, accident, death benefits. And
introduce our Memberships. All or spare time. \$50
to \$300 a month. No experience needed. Write for
particulars. Box EC-293, Covington, Ky.

SONG POEMS WANTED

WE PAY 50 per cent. Hundreds of dollars have
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Make \$25 to \$50 Weekly

selling the Automatic Combination Tool in
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Used by Farmers, Teamsters, in Factories,
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Write for special offer to live agents.
Send no money. Name county where you live.
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We will also include, without extra cost,
a book entitled "Fifty Ways for Boys to
Earn Money." Walter Camp edits
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of this magazine is filled with
clean, fascinating stories and in-
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to every live boy. Departments devoted
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leather, felt padded, leather lined, web thumb, deep pocket.
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MAKE \$50.00 NEXT WEEK WRITE TODAY FOR DETAILS



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new article—now selling like
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Secure territory and take
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MASSAGE MACHINE** for
HOME USE. First practical
machine of its kind. All Mas-
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This machine so low in price
that every woman will buy.
Run by running water any-
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Made of aluminum—most beautiful package—sells on
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Every machine guaranteed. Removes wrinkles,
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agents report great success. Reed, Idaho, sells 5 to
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\$336 in three weeks. Lord, W. Va., cleared \$9 first
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ever saw. Don't delay—write for our special offer.
QUEEN MFG. CO., 1120 Nasby Bldg, Toledo, O.

6 SURE TO BLOOM ROSES 25c



A strong plant of the wonderful prize-winning golden yellow rose

Blumenschmidt

and these five: Bessie Brown, creamy white; Helen Gould, rosy-crimson; Burbank, deep rose pink; Papa Gontier, deep crimson, and the famous Blue Rambler. The entire six for only 25c. We pay all charges and guarantee safe arrival

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- 6 Assorted Verbenas.....25c.
- 6 Choice Basket Vines.....25c.
- 6 Selected Geraniums.....25c.
- 6 Splendid Carnations.....25c.
- 6 Best Chrysanthemums.....25c.

Any collection, 25c; any 5 collections (30 plants), \$1.00. **FREE** Our 1912 catalog, containing any similar bargains. Write for a copy today. SCHMIDT & BOTLEY, Box 407 Springfield, Ohio

6 Hardy Everblooming ROSES Postpaid 25c For Only

All Sure to Bloom and Bloom All Summer



Clothilde Soupert, delicately variegated. My Maryland, handsome salmon-pink. White Cochet, magnificent pure white. Marechal Niel, a deep yellow. La France, beautiful rosy pink. Red La France, a rich crimson.

Our 25c Collections

- 6 Chrysanthemums.....25c
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- 6 Carnations.....25c
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McGregor Bros. Co., Box 541 Springfield, O.

6 Glorious Roses

MAILED POSTPAID FOR—**25c**
ALL WILL BLOOM THIS SUMMER
Hardy, Everblooming, Guaranteed True to Name



BARGAIN OFFER

CAROLINE TESTOUT—Glorious pink. PAULA—Golden yellow. RHEA REID—Crimson. LADY URSULA—Flesh pink. KAISERIN AUGUSTA VICTORIA—Best white. CLIMBING BABY RAMBLER—Blooms from spring until frost.

Order today—You will get the finest roses ever offered.

DAHLIAS

COUNTESS OF LANSDALE—Deep rosy salmon. FLORADORA—Deep crimson. QUEEN VICTORIA—Yellow. MATCHLESS—Scarlet. SYLVIA—Pink. STORM KING—Snow white.

Dahlias are the coming flower and used for all occasions. One tuber, any variety, 15 cents. Any 3 for 40 cts. (The 6 for 75 cts. postpaid.)

DAHLIA SEED

New Century, Cactus, Black, Striped, Double, Single, all colors. For 10c will send 50 seeds—enough for a fine Dahlia Garden. Catalog **FREE**.

MISS JESSIE M GOOD

Florist and Dahlia Specialist, Box 276 SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

Dear Mr. Park:—We have been taking your Magazine for some time and like it better and better all the time. I did not receive my Magazine for November, and would like to have someone send it to me if they have one which they do not use. We are beginning to have some cool weather down here in Illinois. Thanks for the cards and letters received. I think I have answered them all. I would like to have as many of you that can send me postals on my birthday, April 13th, 1912. I will be 16 years old. I will try to answer all I receive.

Barbara Little.

Pontoosuc, Ill., R. F. D. 1, Nov. 15, 1911.

Dear Mr. Park:—I am a boy of 13 years, and live in the city, but have a large garden. I have been taking your Magazine only a few months, but I enjoy it very much. Postals exchanged.

Frank Elward.

Chicago, 2235 Hamburg St., Ill., Sept. 11, 1911.

Dear Mr. Park:—I received the watch ten days after I sent the money for my club of subscribers. It is neat in appearance, and has given good satisfaction. I greatly enjoy your Magazine, especially the Children's Corner. Leland Gilstrap.

Fresno Co., Calif., Dec. 14, 1911.

Note.—I will send to any little boy or girl a handsome watch for a club of ten subscribers at 15 cents each (\$1.50).—Editor.

LEAP YEAR POST CARDS FREE

Send 2c for postage & receive 5 humorous & entertaining cards. CHAS. MORRIS, Dept. 51, 156 Quincy St., Chicago

Good Gracious Chrysanthemum



5 for 25 cents

A marvelously large variety, the flowers of which are frequently 22 inches in circumference; beautiful, bright lustrous pink color and perfect form. Plants usually sell at 25 cents each, but to readers of this paper, we will send a strong plant of the above and four other choice Chrysanthemums, all different—five plants in all for

only 25 cents, with full directions for growing big flowers. Beautiful floral catalog free.

Iowa Seed Company

Des Moines, Iowa.

A WOMAN FLORIST

6 Hardy Everblooming Roses 25c

On their own roots. ALL WILL BLOOM THIS SUMMER

Sent to any address post-paid; guaranteed to reach you in good growing condition.

GEMROSE COLLECTION

Antoine Rivoire, Delicate Blush
Etoile de Lyon, Golden Yellow
Killarney, The Irish Beauty
Rhea Reid, Dazzling Crimson
Snowflake, Pure White
Aurora, Grandest Pink

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- 6 Carnations, the "Divine Flower," all colors, 25c.
- 6 Prize-Winning Chrysanthemums, - - - 25c.
- 6 Beautiful Coleus, - - - 25c.
- 3 Grand Hardy Phlox, - - - 25c.
- 3 Choice Double Dahlias, - - - 25c.
- 6 Fuchsias, all different, - - - 25c.
- 10 Lovely Gladioli, - - - 25c.
- 10 Superb Pansy Plants, - - - 25c.
- 15 Pkts. Flower Seeds, all different, 25c.



Any Five Collections for One Dollar, Post-Paid. Guarantee satisfaction. Once a customer, always one. Catalog Free.

MISS ELLA V. BAINES, Box 8 Springfield, Ohio

ABOUT TOBACCO.

Mr. Park:—Is the use of tobacco a universal practice in the South? I know a minister, a man otherwise of an upright character, whose lips are always stained with tobacco. He says his people have for generations used it, and that the women of the South also use it, because of malaria, that he has to use it because he is afflicted with scurvy. This young minister might be the saving of the young boys growing up in the neighborhood, but he never will, because boys like to see a manly man to pattern after, instead of a weakling whose will power can be conquered by the giant Nicotine. The following conversation occurred between this same minister and the storekeeper's wife:

Rev. J.: "I suppose, Mrs. S., you wouldn't sell a minister tobacco?"

Mrs. J.: "Well, I don't like to. I thought you had quit it."

Rev. J.: "Well, I tried to, but could not."

Mrs. S.: "What does that little bride think about it?"

Rev. J.: "Well, she is opposed to me using it, but when she sees me so miserable and cross, she is ready then to have me use it, if it will soothe my nerves. Did you ever see an old rotten bone, Mrs. S., all filled with writhing maggots? Well, my joy bone feels just like that when I am out of tobacco."

The poor creature got it. Mrs. F. P. H.
Pueblo Co., Colo., Nov. 9, 1911.

Note.—The tobacco habit is hardly worse at the South than at the North, though it is said that more women use snuff at the South than at the North. The idea of tobacco warding off malaria is merely an excuse. It would be better to have the body filled with malaria than with the poisonous and filthy nicotine. But this is only one of the many human inconsistencies. We hear a lot about the deleterious effects of food adulteration, and yet some who are shouting loudest about it do not hesitate to smoke upon the crowded street and blow the foul and poisonous fumes into the faces of those whom they sicken and physically injure. I have often known of sickness caused by tobacco fumes inhaled upon the street or in some public gathering, but have never known, except by hearsay, of any immediate injury or sickness caused by adulterated foods. This statement is not made to uphold adulterated foods, which are justly decried, but to show the inconsistencies of humanity. Even magazines and journals that decry patent medicines, oleomargarine and adulterated foods, are found devoting whole pages in their advertising columns to advocating the use of tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and pipes—materials that defile the body and make it offensive, as well as do injury mentally and physically, as many poor deluded boys and men have found to their sorrow. But it's the old fault handed down from the time of our Saviour, when he accused the Pharisees of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel.—Ed.

For Cuts and Bruises.—I wonder how many of the sisters know that the flowers of a Hibiscus bruised is excellent for boils and bruises. I learned this from a Chinaman. The little petals or tubers on a Cinnamon Vine are also excellent for cuts or bruises. The vine is sometimes called the Chinese Potato. To use it cut a Potato in half and apply at once to the cut. It clings to the open wound. After half an hour put a fresh piece on without irritating the wound. When the wound is healed the Potato will fall off. C. O. M.

Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 18, 1911.

To Settle the Cat Question.—Here is a scheme that might settle the cat question: Let our legislature forbid everyone letting their cats stray from their own premises, especially at night, when they do the most mischief, and disturb the sleep of their tired neighbors. All Christians should consent to this, when they realize that it is only in obedience to the Scriptural command, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Yours hopefully, E. R. Gorham, Grove Beach, Conn., Jan. 25, 1912.

[Note.—As the Song-birds are returning let all who have cats, place a collar of bells upon each cat, to warn the birds of their approach. Such collars may often be obtained at the 10 cent store, and are comparatively inexpensive.—Ed.]

WANTED Settlers for good, free homesteads, Plats and particulars 25 cents.
Department FM, Harrison, Arkansas.



MARVEL BAIT makes **FISH BITE**
Marvel Automatic Hooks land them every time.
Beat everybody catching fish. We offer a FREE box and Sample Hooks for helping to introduce them. Write Japanese Novelty Co., Dept 12 Clinton, Iowa



Fish Bite like hungry wolves if you use **Magic-Fish-Lure**. Best fish bait ever discovered. Keeps you busy pulling them out. Write to-day and get a box to help introduce it. Agents wanted.
J. F. GREGORY, R-48 St. Louis, Mo

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69 Varieties. Also Small Fruits, Trees, etc. Best Rooted Stock, Genuine, cheap, 2 sample vines mailed for 10c. Desc. price-list free. LEWIS ROESCH & SON, Box J, Fredonia, N. Y.

Book on Grape Culture FREE

Instructions for planting, cultivating and pruning; also descriptions of best varieties for vineyard or home garden. Profusely illustrated. Issued by the largest growers of grape vines and small fruits in the country. Millions of vines for sale.
T. S. HUBBARD CO., Box 31, Fredonia, N. Y.



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A New Patented Sprayer different from others. Only one keeping up a high pressure, liquid always agitated. No stopping to pump, done while you spray. Recommended by experiment stations. Once tried will use no other. Easiest to operate, durable, saves time, labor and money; non-clog. For trees, potatoes, gardens, white-washing, painting, etc. Lowest prices. Send for Spraying Guide.
SIMPLEX MFG. Co., Box 904 St. Peter, Minn.



Prize Winning ASTERS

"I took first prize on your Asters," or "Your Asters were the finest I ever saw,"—so say scores of my patrons. I want you and your friends to try them. Send a dime and addresses of two flower growers, and I will send you:

1. A full packet of my Exhibition Prize Aster Seed.
2. Coupon good for ten cents on any seed order.
3. My leaflet, "How to Grow Best Asters."
4. My new Illustrated Flower List, with dainty, hand-painted cover design (over 600 kinds—seeds, plants and bulbs).

You will be surprised to see at what a small cost you can have a beautiful flower garden. Write today for my List anyway—it is free—and plan your garden early.

MISS EMMA V. WHITE, Seedswoman, 15th yr.
3035 Aldrich Ave. So. Minneapolis, Minn.



6



EVERBLOOMING

ROSES 25¢

Including a genuine plant of the wonderful new

CLIMBING "BABY" RAMBLER

Never Before Offered—Better Than Crimson Rambler Bears continuously enormous heads of rich, crimson flowers. The other 5 are: Maman Cochet, shell pink; Kaiserin, pure white; Etolle de Lyon, pure yellow; Star of France, deep red; Champion of the World, deep pink. The six, all strong plants on own roots, postpaid for 25 cents. Will bloom profusely this summer.

30 Beautiful Plants for \$1.00

6 Chrysanthemums...25c. 6 Best Carnations...25c.
6 Fine Cannas...25c. 6 Ferns, all different...25c.

We will send any one of these splendid collections on receipt of 25 cents; or the entire four collections and the 6 Roses named above for only \$1.00. We pay all postage and guarantee safe arrival and satisfaction.

Our 1912 Catalogue FREE TO ALL. Write for it to-day.

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Innsfallen Greenhouses—Established 1877.

CANNAS FOR SALE Bulbs of named varieties, such as Alemania, King Humbert, Florence Vaughn, Martha Washington, Italia, etc., at \$1.00 per doz. Mrs. A. J. MATHESON, Bennettsville, S. C.

GLADS 5 Gladiolus bulbs. All blooming, 5 pink Oxalis. Pkt. each Sweet Peas, Pansies, Asters. Postp'd 10c stamps. Catalogue. Central Seed & Bulb Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.

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450,000 TREES

200 Varieties. Also Grapes, Small Fruits, etc. Best rooted stock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample currants mailed for 10c. Catalog free. LEWIS BROSCH & SON, Box J, Fredonia, N. V.

ROSES & NEW CASTLE
is the greatest book on the culture of Roses and other plants ever published. 86 pages, exquisitely illustrated in natural colors. Gives lifetime experience. Tells everything about rose culture. Describes wonderful Hoosier Roses, hardy plants, bulbs, seeds, etc., world's best for home planting. It's FREE. Write today. HELLER BROS. CO., Box 445, New Castle, Ind.



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I grow Strawberry, Raspberry, Blackberry and other small Fruit Plants, Grape Vines, Shrubbery, Privet, etc. My FREE Catalogue tells the truth about them, and the prices quoted are fair for good stock, true to name. Write me today. W. F. ALLEN, 122 Market Street, Salisbury, Md.

TREES - Low Prices - Freight PAID
Our new catalogue contains a big list of the greatest nursery bargains ever offered. Less than half agents' prices! All orders guaranteed! This catalogue will save you money! Don't buy your plants till you've read it. RICH LAND NURSERIES, Box 129, Rochester, N. Y. Rochester is the tree center of the world. **SEND TO-DAY**
FREE! Money-Saving Book

SCARFF'S BLACKBERRIES
have a reputation for highest quality fruit and heavy yields. \$300.00 per acre no uncommon returns. 1100 acres fruit plants, trees, farm seeds, etc. Special Premium—With every \$1.00 purchase 10 kernels grown from the 10 grand Champion Ears of Corn of the National Corn Show FREE. We paid \$350.00 for the 10 ears, and they are worth it. Send for handsome catalog. W. N. SCARFF, New Carlisle, O.

STOKES' SEEDS
Seed catalogs are always interesting. Mine this year is the finest I have ever issued. If you have a garden, I'll chance getting part of your seed order if you will only send for the book. Write today and mention Park's Floral Magazine.
Dept. 69 Walter P. Stokes, Seedsman, Philadelphia

HURST SPRAYERS
ON FREE TRIAL
No money in advance—sprayers for every purpose, hand and horse power for field and orchard—gasoline power sprayers. 5 year guarantee. We pay freight. Write today for our free catalog, spraying guide and special free sprayer offer to first in each locality. Don't delay—be first and save money. The H. L. Hurst Mfg Co., 8922 North St., Canton, Ohio

MAGAZINE APPRECIATED.

Mr. Park:—I take great pleasure in reading your valuable little Magazine. They say "Good goods come in small packages." This is true in regard to your Magazine. Mrs. S. Marie Horton. Essexville, Mich., Dec. 6, 1911.

Mr. Park:—I have quite a nice collection of choice plants, and feel very proud of them, as I have taken first premium at the Hornell Fair for the past four years. I look to Park's Floral Magazine, which I have taken about ten years, for cultural directions. Mrs. F. T. DeLany. Steuben Co., N. Y., Oct. 13, 1911.

Mr. Park:—I have long wanted to add my mite to the good things in our flower Magazine, which I read from cover to cover. In fact, I drop everything when it comes, and at least glance over it, then after supper I simply devour everything in it. Iroquois Co., Ill. Mrs. Kate Mallory.

Mr. Park:—I wish to let you know how much I value your little Magazine. I simply cannot do without it. When anything gets the matter with any of my flowers I just get my volumes of the Magazine, and soon find what to do for them. My neighbors call me the flower doctor, and all come to me for advice about their flowers. Carter Co., Ky., Jan. 23, 1912. Mrs. J. T. Ramey.

Mr. Park:—I have been taking your Magazine for some time, and I like it so much. I am a great lover of flowers, but never had good luck or success with them until I began taking your Magazine. It seems to give just the needed information, and anyone following the instructions given therein, cannot fail to have good success. Hancock Co., Ia., Jan. 6, 1912. Mrs. Helen Allen.

Mr. Park:—I could hardly get along successfully in my flower work without your dear little Magazine. Whenever I want to know just when to plant or sow my flower seeds, and how to care for and cultivate them, I turn to your Magazine and hunt through its pages until I find the desired information. I keep every copy for present and future use, so if I can't find what I want in one, I will in another. Mrs. J. E. Fisher. Gibson Co., Tenn., Nov. 23, 1911.

Mr. Park:—I have taken your floral Magazine for fifteen years, and I find in it more help in caring for flowers than in any floral paper I have ever taken.

Oh welcome, most welcome.
Thou friend, tried and true,
With feelings of gladness
Each month thee I view;
Though frequent thy visits,
They're none the less dear;
Our friendship increases
With each added year.

Fowlerville, Mich., Nov. 8, 1911. E. A. H.

Mr. Park:—I have taken your well-liked Magazine for nearly six years, and would not like to be without it again. Your hints on keeping flowers are so good, and can be applied in a humble home where great expense could not be gone into. ** I like the way you treat the tobacco subject. My husband does not use tobacco, and I do not see how so many dainty and refined girls can marry men who not only smoke but chew as well. Mrs. Shelly Kelso.

Riverside Co., Cal., Dec. 5, 1911.

Note.—It is doubtful whether men would look with as much leniency upon the use of tobacco by women, as the women do upon men, yet the habit is really no worse for one than the other. As to the method of using, one who chews or uses snuff would certainly be preferred to a smoker, as the smoke befalls the air whether in-doors or out, acts as a germ transmitter to the system of others, and often causes sickness and physical suffering also, because of the nicotine poison inhaled.—Ed.

Poem Wanted.—Mr. Park:—I would like a poem of which I know only the following verses:
I came to a spot where a white pilgrim lay,
And silently stood by his tomb;
When, in a low whisper, a voice seemed to say,
"How sweetly I sleep here alone."
Mrs. L., Galena, Kas., Nov. 15, 1911.

Thornless Cactus settings \$3. 4 varieties thorny Cactus, whole plants \$5. Stark Trading Co., Zap. Co., Lopeno, Tex.

EXCHANGES.

Poppy, Four O'Clock, Dipper Gourd seeds for others. Mrs. J. F. Berry, R. 6, Winsboro, Tex.

Hardy Phlox, Oleander for Grape Myrtle or deep red Phlox. Mrs. Addie L. Kerr, Lynchburg, Va.

Cin. Vine bulbs and spotted Calla for Tulips or Gladiolus. Mrs. Jno. Gaillard, Sr., Fairview, Pa.

Canna tubers and seeds for other plants. S. Bowman, Fall City, Nebr.

From California.—Mr. Park:—I feel like thanking you for eliminating the medical advertisements. They detracted from the tone and appearance of a Magazine otherwise devoted to beautiful and lofty subjects. My children are becoming nature lovers from hearing the children's page read. It is interesting and attractive. I wish you success and prosperity.

Butte Co., Cal., Dec. 11, 1911. Mrs. M. G.

Spraying and Birds.—Mr. Park:—Last year we sprayed our Apple and Peach trees with Bordeaux mixture and the field crop with Arsenate of Lead, both in the same week. Well, there were eleven nests of Robins in the Peach and Elm trees on the lawn and but two of the young birds escaped death. I really think if people continue to spray their trees, there will be a sudden end of the birds. Alice.

Cumb. Co., Me., Dec. 14, 1911.

Red Egg Strain If you want a Fancy Market Egg Trade, get our Red Egg Strain of Rhode Island Reds. Write today for Mating List and Booklet telling all about this strain. RED EGG FARM, East Felatka, Fla.



GREIDER'S FINE CATALOGUE

Book and calendar for 1912 contains 200 pages. 72 varieties pure bred, 62 colored plates. Many other illustrations, descriptions. Incubators and brooders. Low prices on all stock and eggs. How to raise and make hens lay. Get my plans. They all say it's great—this book—only 15 cents. Price list free.

B. H. GREIDER, Box 25, Rheems, Pa.

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Poultry Secrets Revealed tells all you want to know about poultry culture; all the little secrets of breeding, egg production, incubation, brooding, in fact everything. You cannot afford to be without this wonderful poultry guide, written by C. F. Townsend, one of the greatest authorities on poultry culture today. The National Poultry Magazine included for one year with this book for \$1.00.

National Poultry Magazine, Box 88, Buffalo, N.Y.

Don't Start Poultry Keeping

till you have read the Six Free Chapters written by Robert Essex after a Quarter Century's Experience in the business. They tell *How to Make Money With Poultry*; *How to Build Low-Cost Poultry Houses*. They tell Fanciers, and Women, and Farmers how to *START RIGHT*, and also tell all about America's Largest Line of Incubators and Brooders. The book is FREE. Write today. Address,

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201 Henry St., Buffalo, N. Y.

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A BOOK ON CAGE BIRDS, 120 pages, 150 illustrations, a plate of fancy canaries in their natural colors. Full information as to song and rare canaries. How to breed them for profit. Hints on their diseases and how to cure them. All about Parrots and how to teach them to talk. A most complete book on the subject. Mailed for 15c. or both for 25c. Phila. Bird Food Co. 400 North Third St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Our two BIG FREE BOOKS tell YOU how. OUR New 1912 Hatcher and Brooders will give you stronger chickens and will save half the cost. Write for FREE BOOKS today and we will tell you how to MAKE your poultry pay better than the rest of the farm.



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describes them. Send for it today.
Wisconsin Incubator Co.,
Box 25

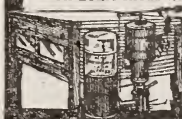
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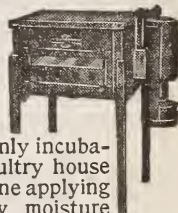
H. M. SHEER, Dept. 19, Quincy, Ill.

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The Incubator of Certainty

Operated by rule. The novice gets the same excellent results as the experienced operator. The only incubator with the open-front poultry house plan of ventilation. Only one applying the vital principle of low moisture with high temperature and high moisture when heat runs low. All regulated automatically. Send for latest book, describing the new features—plain, practical, helpful.

Write us for mating list and prices on S. C. White Leghorn stock and eggs from the Mandy Lee farm. GEO. H. LEE CO., 1232 Harney St., Omaha, Neb.



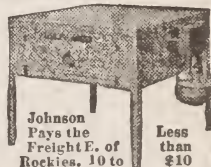
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M. M. JOHNSON, Incubator Man. Clay Center, Neb.

LADIES make supporters, \$12 per 100; no canvassing; material furnished. Stamped envelop, for particulars.
WABASH SUPPLY CO., Desk O, Chicago.

OLD COINS WANTED \$7.75 paid for the rare 1853 quarter; \$20.00 for a \$½. Keep all money dated before 1890, and send 10c at once for new Coin Value Book. It may mean a fortune.
A. H. KRAUS, 247 Kraus Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

Near-Brussels Art-Rugs, \$3.50

• Sent to your home by express prepaid

Sizes and Prices	
9 x 6 ft.	\$3.50
9 x 7½ ft.	4.00
9 x 9 ft.	4.50
9 x 10½ ft.	5.00
9 x 12 ft.	5.50
9 x 15 ft.	6.50

Beautiful and attractive patterns. Made in all colors. Easily kept clean and warranted to wear. Woven in one piece. Both sides can be used. Sold direct at one profit. Money refunded if not satisfactory.



New Catalogue showing goods in actual colors, sent free.
ORIENTAL IMPORTING CO., 973 Bourse Bldg., Phila.



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Have imported roller chains, sprockets and pedals; New Departure Coaster-Brakes and Hubs; Puncture Proof Tires; highest grade equipment and many advanced features possessed by no other wheels. Guaranteed 5 yrs.

FACTORY PRICES direct to you are less than others ask for cheap wheels. Other reliable models from \$12 up. A few good second-hand machines \$3 to \$8.

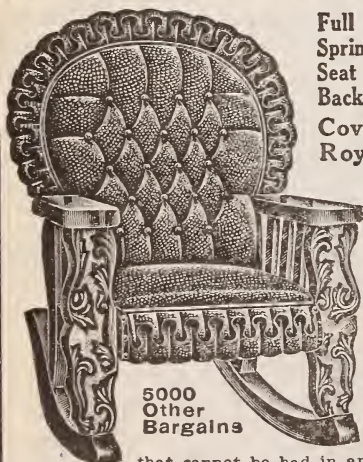
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MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. L-136, CHICAGO

ROYAL LEATHER ROCKER



5000
Other
Bargains

Full Spring
Seat and Back—
\$3.85

Covered in Best
Royal Leather

Look at the picture; doesn't this Rocker look inviting with its high, broad, shapely back and deep roomy spring seat? It's made to last forever, and its wide arms, supported by six neatly turned smooth spindles, and massive front carved posts, give it the exclusiveness and style of any other rocker.

that cannot be had in any other rocker. Frame thoroughly seasoned oak, high golden and gloss finish. Best quality Black Royal Leather; workmanship first-class. Price but \$3.85 makes it the biggest bargain ever offered. We can afford such values because we own our own timber lands, saw mills, factories and salesrooms. Money back if it is not worth double. Send for our large FREE cash catalogue of Furniture, Rugs, Curtains, etc. Learn at once how much cheaper and better you can buy for cash direct from the manufacturers. We save you all extra profits. Write NOW; better still, enclose \$3.85 for this comfortable rocker. Order by number 670. Address: (11-1)

BIG CATALOG FREE

Lincoln-Leonard & Co., Dept. 3244, 1112 W. 37th St., Chicago

CORRESPONDENCE.

From West Virginia.—Dear Mr. Park:—After reading in the September number of the Floral Magazine the very interesting description of your beautiful home and enchanting grounds, with their stately trees and flowering shrubs, and flowers galore, and birds and water, one's surroundings in comparison seem poor indeed. And yet, and yet again, I feel impelled to write on this warm, mild October day—October 4th—and not a sign of frost, and the grass and the foliage of trees and of shrubs as green as they were in summer.

Just now, while in the glory of their white beauty I am fain to tell of my *Datura arborea*. Four large, tall clumps grace my yard with their stately presence. Their large, velvety leaves of a rich green color are beautiful indeed, and the large, trumpet-shaped, drooping flowers in their glistening whiteness are surprisingly pretty.

Yesterday evening, ere the night shadows fell, a gleam of their shining whiteness enticed me into the yard. On one clump I counted fifteen perfect flowers, and on another twelve, and all the air was filled with the fragrance of these flowers, well named, in common parlance, "The Angel's Trumpet." However, I admire the name



BRUGMANSIA SUAVEOLENS.

Datura, which is elegant and stately, and somehow seems to harmonize admirably with the plant. But if I am to continue to expatiate on the beauty of this strange and sweet flower, I fear the editor will call a halt. Nevertheless, I will venture to tell of other white flowers blooming in my yard on this fair October day.

There is a white Crape Myrtle—there's loveliness for you, delicate and feathery, and lovely beyond the telling. I have a bed of *Anemone Japonica alba plena* which has been a source of much pleasure to me and my friends for many years; but, alas! that I should tell it, this summer these plants were attacked by an innumerable throng of long, black beetles which had nearly finished their work of destruction before they were discovered. I was fortunate, however, in saving half a dozen plants, which have expressed their gratitude by blooming profusely. Several white *Roses* continue to bloom. A large bed of white Perennial *Phlox* blooms from midsummer until frost. In rich contrast with these white flowers is a large bed of fine red *Cannas*. One variety is of a deep red color, the other a deeper, richer red, with a velvety glow. I rejoice, also, in a bed of *Cannas* of a beautiful pale yellow color. Among my *Dahlias* the Grand Duke Alexis is a great bloomer, but of my *Dahlias* more anon. The *Dahlias*, the *Cannas*, and the *Daturas* are all showy plants, and make a fine display on my lawn.

Ada Gist.

West Virginia, Oct. 4, 1911.

Note.—The *Datura* referred to is often known as *Brugmansia Suaveolens*. It is truly a fine plant to bed out, but at the North must be wintered in the house, where it will often bloom during winter.—Ed.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

Dear Mr. Park:—I am a farm girl of 14 years. I have only been taking your Magazine for a short time, but I like it very much. I love to read the poetry and children's letters. I am a lover of birds, flowers and music. Postals ex. Pontoosuc, Ill., R. F. D. 1. Myrtle Little.

Dear Mr. Park:—I am a little girl nine years old and live on a farm. My father raised about 1200 bushels of apples this year. We have three horses, six cows, and a pair of oxen. My mother takes your Magazine and we all enjoy it very much. We have a little Canary bird and he sings nearly all the time. Postals exchanged.

Edna L. Grant.

Hampden Highlands, Me., R. D. 1, Nov. 18, 1911.

Dear Mr. Park:—I am a little boy not four years old, so my mamma will write my letter for me. I love to have my mamma read the Children's letters to me, and I look at the pictures in your Magazine. I live on a farm and love the birds and flowers. Postals exchanged.

Paul B. Atwood.

Lisbon, N. Y., Box 103, Nov. 19, 1911

EXCHANGES.

Pansy seeds for other seeds, plants or bulbs. C. E. Sanford, 5941 S. York, Tacoma, Wash.

Cape Jas., Honeysuckle, Roses, Fl. Almond, Cypress seeds & Fl. Bean for others. Ida Frisbee, Lindale, Tex.

Yellow Jong'ls & roots of pink Moss Rose for Tul's, Hya, or Roses. Mrs. W. T. Williams, Charlotte C. H., Va.

Parlor Ivy for Palms or Rubber Plant. Mrs. Henry Popham, Upton, Wyo.

Christmas Cactus and other plants. Mrs. Chas. Grubb, Groseclose, Va.

I wish to get a hardy Chrysanthemum, double flowers, size of a shirt button, color pinkish gray, foliage small. The flowers come in clusters and have a pleasant fragrance. Who can supply it in exchange? Write. Mrs. W. H. Boyd, Beverly, N. J.



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QUESTIONS.

Echeveria and Cacti.—I would like to know something about these plants and their culture. Will someone write about them?—Mrs. M. L. Warren, Feb. 6, 1912.

For the Seashore.—What trees and plants will do well near the seashore? We live only a square from the Gulf of Mexico, and an answer to this question will be appreciated.—E. K. Stanley, Texas.

Swainsonia and Oleander.—I have plants of these that do not bloom. How old must they be to bloom and how shall I treat them?—Mrs. M. J., Oneida Co., N. Y., Nov. 22, 1911.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Vacant Land.—Mr. Park: Back of our house is a piece of woods with vacant spots of land between. Can you tell me what will grow there, as I would like to utilize it profitably?—Fannie J., Maine, Jan. 15, 1912.

Ans.—I am not familiar with the farming conditions in Maine, but if the vacant spots were in Pennsylvania they would be profitably utilized in growing potatoes or buckwheat. The potatoes mostly require a top dressing of manure or some fertilizer, but the buckwheat will grow in thin, poor land.

White Worms.—My plants are troubled with little "white worms," and my bay window is full of flies. How can I get rid of them?—Mrs. G. P., Holland, Iowa.

Ans.—When "white worms" appear in the soil, and flies are about the plants, it is an indication that the soil is tenacious and poorly drained, so that it has become sour. A remedy is to allow the soil to dry out until the plants begin to wilt, then apply hot lime water, a little hotter than the hand will bear, until the liquid flows freely through the drainage hole at the bottom of the pot. The hot lime water will destroy the "worms," and the flies will soon disappear. If the drainage is so clogged that the water will not pass through, it may be necessary to re-pot the plants in fresh, porous soil.

Vincas.—My Vincas, or Periwinkles, are nice green stocks that look very thrifty, but the buds all drop off. Some will just be open, while others are just small when they drop. How shall I treat the plants?—Mrs. A. B. Mendenhall, Pa., Nov. 20, 1911.

Ans.—The dropping of the Vinca buds was doubtless due to the dryness of the atmosphere. They like a moist, warm temperature and a rather sunny situation. Sphagnum Moss placed over the surface soil in the pots will be found beneficial in overcoming the dryness of the atmosphere, as well as preventing the rapid evaporation of the soil in earthen pots.—Ed.

Date Palm.—Mr. Park: I have a Date Palm, but as soon as the leaves come out they turn brown and drop off. How shall I treat it?—Mrs. K., Reading, Pa.

Ans.—The Date Palm likes a very sandy soil and sunny situation. It is possible that your plant is growing in tenacious soil, and that the drainage is insufficient. In summer, set the plant out, plunging it in a rather sunny place, and keep well watered.



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Wear turbans of green and mantles of gold;
But those that are shy and stand farther away
Wear turbans of white and mantles of gray.
Waterloo, Wash. Becca Richy.

CATS AND BIRDS.

Mr. Park:—Miss Reppy, of Missouri, suggests exiling all those who are avowed enemies of the cat. Suppose this could be done, and all we bird lovers were permitted to gather up all the birds and go into exile, how long do you suppose it would be till our cat friends would be around begging for something to eat? Not long, I fear,

for without birds the cats, bugs and worms would reign supreme. And what a bill of fare they would have for their table, with only cats, bugs and worms around! And would they not be delighted with the grand cat concerts every evening. Yes, and how pleased they would be to spend sleepless nights for years, if necessary, so long as the cat filled its mission.



I am a friend of the cat as long as it is in its place, but if I ever caught any cat in the act of catching birds, I should lose no time in sending it to the happy hunting grounds. Claude Crisp.

Plainview, Nebr., Mar. 22, 1911.

A PLEA FOR THE BIRDS.

Dear Friends:—Have you ever thought how sad and lonely this world would be without the dear little birds? If so, why, oh! why don't you, in the name of love and kindness, teach the little boys not to kill the birds? How sad I was made during what should have been the happy Christmas season, to hear the continued bang, bang, and to know our little song birds were falling right and left, and their life blood was ebbing away on the dead grass! A season of peace on earth and good will toward men, and yet shedding uselessly innocent blood! No wonder the cry is ringing out in our country "What shall we do? The boll weevil is destroying all the cotton." Never were more insects known in this country than today. Yet I am sorry to say the people will laugh at such an idea as birds being any help. The Dove, to me, seems like something sacred. Did you ever think of the emblem it bore, the emblem of God's love? And yet they are shot down without a thought of sadness. Mothers, teach your boys to show love, mercy and pity to all living things, even in killing a reptile to do it without torture—make the work short and quick. And may God's richest blessings attend you all through life.

Mrs. B. F. Bustin.

Scott Co., Miss., Jan. 16, 1912.

Mushroom Enemies.—In Europe wood lice are sometimes troublesome to Mushrooms. The remedy is to use as traps flower pots half filled with hay and turned upon their sides where the pest appears. Every morning the hay and entrapped lice are emptied into boiling water, and fresh hay is used.

In this country, during summer, a fly troubles the fruits. A grower in New York State writes of it as follows: "I do not attempt to grow Mushrooms after the end of May, for after that time the temperature gets warm enough to develop the small fly that lays its eggs on the stem of the Mushroom, and in an incredibly short time these are hatched, and burrow through the whole Mushroom, which renders it unfit for the table. I do not suppose they would do any harm if eaten in that state, but people prefer their animal and vegetable food kept separate."



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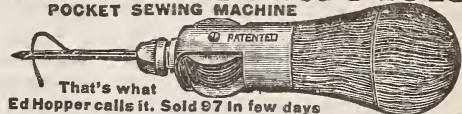


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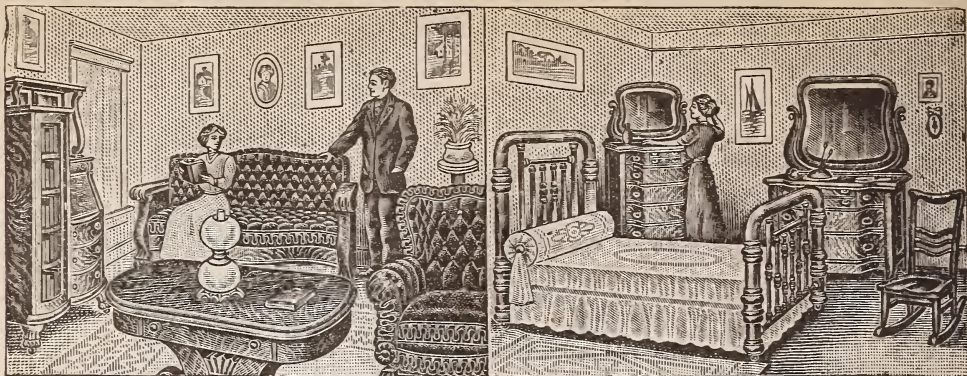


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